

Derek Brunen

Rapid Waking

12 March – 29 April 2011

Opening 11 March 17.30 – 20.00h.



Press Release.

ZINGERpresents is pleased to host Derek Brunen's first exhibition with the gallery: "Rapid Waking". In his first solo exhibition after graduating from the Piet Zwart Institute, a constellation of vivid, poetic works communicate a spiritual and contemplative core, with a simplicity of outlook.

Brunen's practice takes place in the fold between the unconscious and the hyper aware. It rests in the momentary lapse where absence and nothingness are both confirmed and contested by presence and the absolute. For example, a reworking of "Blind" (2007) veils the 30 ft glass façade of the gallery, obscuring the passerby's view whilst raising and tempering expectations of what lies beyond this transitional barrier erected by the artist.

Through the flaws of the human condition, Brunen seeks to reconnect with the world and its forces in his performative practice. Whether we see the artist attempting to navigate his way home from work with his eyes closed, or hung-over, looking for his missing keys, bike and phone (a result of a heavy night of drinking in a barren industrial Rotterdam) we find that spiritual elevation might equally be found in the *absence* of clarity. It's in these time-based works that we are made aware of the refractions of time that may or may not lead to a phenomenal disclosure; a state of grace obtained through the release of the self and an embrace of the unknown.

Steven van Grinsven, 2011

Derek Brunen (CA, 1973), graduated from Piet Zwart Institute in 2010 and currently lives and works in Rotterdam. He has presented solo exhibitions at the Contemporary Art Gallery, Or Gallery and CSA Space, Vancouver and has also participated in group exhibitions at Sparwasser HQ, Berlin, Prince Takamado Gallery, Tokyo and the Western Front, Vancouver.