

MIES VAN DER ROHE HAUS - OBERSEESTRASSE 60 - 13053 BERLIN

PRESS RELEASE

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AVANTI-AVANTI-100

Exhibition: **WHITE CUBE. Rakuko Naito, Thomas Rentmeister und Michel Verjux**

28.04.-07.07.2019

Opening: Sunday 28.04., 4 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Sebastian Preuss, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Weltkunst Magazine



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With the exhibition **WHITE CUBE**, the Mies van der Rohe Haus enters the second round of the Bauhaus anniversary exhibition year, which the institution celebrates with four exhibitions, a research project and two Bauhaus festivals.

After the successful start with the show **DELIGHTING THE WORLD**, the exhibition **WHITE CUBE** follows: The colour white symbolises beginning anew. The Bauhaus set their new white cubes in a grey world. They were to be shining lights: timeless and contemporary. In the course of time the colour white migrated from the outside to the inside to become the defining colour of exhibition spaces: the white cube. It should be mentioned that the modern, cubic architecture of Haus Lemke is anything but a **WHITE CUBE** and has less to do with the idea of the white Modernism.

In the exhibition the Japanese-American artist Rakuko Naito, the German artist Thomas Rentmeister and his French colleague Michel Verjux give their artistic commentary on one of the most important themes of Modernism, the **WHITE CUBE**.

Rakuko Naito's works for the exhibition at the Mies van der Rohe Haus consist of filigree, white pieces of paper. Folded, rolled or layered, they form impressive fragile structures. These are presented in white boxes. "I can live in a white cube forever," says New York-based artist Rakuko Naito, who grew up in a modern white house in Tokyo that her father built and designed in 1930.

For **Thomas Rentmeister's** artistic work, the Bauhaus is less relevant. Rather, he is driven by the question of "whether the box would be white inside, or outside," according to his thoughts in the exhibition catalogue. He deconstructs the myth of the purist White Cube with a spatial installation of refrigerator, sugar, paper pile, toothpaste, and glass cube on an aluminum pedestal.

The French artist **Michel Verjux** creates a great effect with the simplest methods. A single light spot, precisely set, shows the architecture of the house in a new light. Verjux explains: „Because to 'light' something is already to 'exhibit' it. The 'lighting' in itself constitutes the event, the act, and the sign of the exhibition of something of the world before our eyes.“

The exhibition **WHITE CUBE** will be accompanied by a catalogue published by form + zweck with numerous illustrations and the "Four Questions about the Bauhaus", which will be presented to all participating artists in 2019.

During the exhibition, on Sunday, June 30 at 2 p.m., the **Bauhaus Summer Festival** will take place in Bauhaus Yellow and Bauhaus Blue in the Garden.

Further information: 030/97000618 and info@miesvanderrohehaus.de