

DuflonRacz gallery The art of being, and staying, yourself

DuflonRacz are a gallery focusing on the support of young contemporary art with the financial aspect being of only secondary importance.

TEXT: CORNELIA BRELOWSKI I PHOTOS: RUDOLF STEINER

Leaning towards the tradition of 'neuve invention', they are open to those artists that consider themselves at the fringe of the art scene. Consequently, their exhibitions often show artists who provoke the divide between art and the art market.

With a busy agenda of showing seven exhibitions per year in various Bern-based venues, the gallery is just about to open an additional space in Brussels. Often, the artists intertwine their work with the respective venue itself, resulting in displays and installations created specifically for the gallery.

For Henri Racz, an interaction between space, artist and visitor and a conceptual vision of art as experience is as important as the single artist's commitment to their own path. Asked about his favorite exhibitions, the gallerist says: "All of them! Important is the artist's independence from any trend or movement."

This September will show several artists who put a question mark between the

terms 'art' and 'art scene'. Commenting on the divide will be the duo Haus am Gern, formed by Rudolf Steiner and Barbara Meyer Cesta, with an interactive installation work as well as the artist Florence Jung. For her upcoming exhibition with the provocative and probing title *Florence Jung sells her soul*, the artist and art seller Jung plays with the eternal battle between art and commerce.

As Alberto Giacometti, one of the most misconceived artists of his time who often lived and worked under hard and meager conditions, was scolded by co-artists for daring to design and sell a lamp, many artists have since struggled with the divide and still do. Calling herself an "unashamed art seller", Jung states that her exhibition stands" somewhere in the middle".

On 8 September, DuflonRacz will go international with the opening of their new space in Brussels' Rivoli building, a new hub for unconventional galleries (Chaussée de Waterloo 690 in 1180 Bruxelles). As a venue focusing on young contemporary art away from the financial 'brouhaha' of the scene, DuflonRacz becomes a destination for those searchers looking for the essence in today's art. Asked about his dream scenario, for Henri Racz to see his artists participating in the next Documenta in Kassel would be simply the "non plus ultra".

www.duflon-racz.ch

