

## Tobias Spichtig

the blue, the red, the green, the cuboid and the pyramid



**An Exhibition at the  
Ursula Blickle Foundation  
March 11 –April 22, 2012**

The Ursula Blickle Foundation and Fabian Schöneich are proud to present Tobias Spichtig's first solo exhibition in Germany.

Spichtig's work is based on a discourse concerning pictures and their meaning. The electronic availability and ubiquitous media presence of historic material has made nostalgia one of the core concepts of our time. Rock, punk and techno can be mentioned as examples. Once defined as something new, today these genres are seen from both historic and contemporary perspectives. The overwhelming presence of the media and the continuous availability of information contribute to the dissolution of time, which is the starting point for Spichtig's work. His approach is based on material production, with clear references to conceptual art and its abstraction of subject matter. Concept and narration are abstracted and continually redefined. This creates symbolic works that present the historical and contemporary as the basis of a radical presence.

Based on fashion, photography, painting and theoretical considerations, powerful concepts are developed using strategy and manipulation of the material. Repetition, re-interpretation and simple appropriation shift the focus from the actual subject matter to the material itself. For example, the music videos that he incorporates into his 16-mm films are transferred without sound, making them into short silent films. The nostalgically laden material of the 16-mm film and of the old-fashioned video format serve to create a combination of material and content, which, through its absurdity, eludes temporal classification both physically and in terms of subject. Spichtig highlights his conceptual approach and fuses this together with individual emotions.

The question of the limits of painting is made obvious by displaying magnifications of low-resolution digital material on the screen. The prints show image cut-outs that call into question what is happening in the image. The larger context is lost among the selected details. A photograph is transformed into something like a painting, while the original subject matter becomes completely abstract. Something similar occurs in Spichtig's almost collage-style works that use both, found photographs and his own shots. By repeating and overlapping the same photograph onto itself, the original image is lost. What remains is a feeling.

Three-dimensional geometric figures in the shape of pyramids, cubes and cylinders are covered with knitted surfaces and fabrics. The selection of works presents itself as something like a collection; it presents us with a code which is as universally understandable as it is obscured by its fast pace.

The title of the exhibition, *The blue, the red, the green, the cuboid and the pyramid* contains the poetic potential of the physical principles of color (RGB) and constructivist shapes, which highlights the artistic process.

### **Exhibition Venue**

#### **Ursula Blickle Foundation**

Mühlweg 18, D-76703 Kraichtal-UÖ  
Phone +49 7251 60919, Fax +49 7251 68687  
[www.ursula-blickle-stiftung.de](http://www.ursula-blickle-stiftung.de)

### **Press Information**

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### **Press Images**

Images will be made available on the foundation's website: [www.ursula-blickle-stiftung.de](http://www.ursula-blickle-stiftung.de)

### **Publication**

An artist's book with texts contributed by Fabian Schöneich, Nicolaus Schafhausen, Geoffrey Farmer and Ken Lum will be published to accompany the exhibition.

### **Preview**

Please reserve by telephone or fax:  
Phone +49 7251 60919, Fax +49 7251 68687

### **Exhibition Dates**

**March 11 – April 22, 2012**

### **Opening Event**

**Saturday, March 10, 2012, 7 p.m.**

Welcome: Ursula Blickle  
Introduction: Fabian Schöneich

### **Curator**

Fabian Schöneich, Kunsthalle Basel

### **Opening Hours**

Wed. 2 – 5 p.m., Sun. 2 – 6 p.m.  
and by appointment

### **Closing Event**

**April 22, 2012, 4 p.m.**

Lecture and conversation:  
Dr. Hannelore Paflik-Huber, art historian, Stuttgart

**We'd appreciate an announcement of our exhibition in your medium. If publicized, please send us a copy for our files. Thank you!**