

## PRESS RELEASE

**galerie burster** berlin / in cooperation with **max goelitz** München

Sébastien de Ganay

GESTURES	4 – 27 September 2020
Soft opening	Friday, 4 September 2020, 11am – 9pm
Opening	Friday, 11 September 2020, 11am – 7pm   The artist is present.
Location	HB55 hall A + C Herzbergstraße 55 10365 Berlin
Opening hours	Friday – Sunday, 11am – 7pm

We are delighted to present *Gestures*, the first solo exhibition of Sébastien de Ganay in collaboration with galerie burster. The exhibition, realized in cooperation with max goelitz, Munich, will be shown in HB55, Hall A + C in Berlin-Lichtenberg.

As one of the most innovative artists in experimental painting and sculpture today, Sébastien de Ganay (\*1962 in Boulogne-Billancourt, France) often questions the traditional boundaries between art and design in his work. Thus, de Ganay combines the figurative and the abstract, the everyday and the exclusive in a minimalist as well as sensual formal language.

The works from four different series shown in *Gestures* combine an impressive balance of spontaneity and reflected balance - haptic, sensual aspects are in visible harmony with self-observation and rational processing.

As in the series of works *Folded Flats*, in which de Ganay, inspired by everyday Post-its, explores the folding possibilities of the square in a variety of forms and monochrome colours. Produced in a serial manner, de Ganay creates minimalist abstract wall sculptures made of aluminium, which despite their material do not lose their lightness and spontaneity. The objects, which become spatial bodies through the folding, reveal front and back, move between surface and space, between second and third dimension.

With their steel-like appearance, de Ganay's *Ceramics* evoke associations with metallic meteorites. Created in a direct examination of the material, these are quiet, self-contained works whose function or materiality is difficult to decode. They seem abstract and yet strangely familiar. As individual objects, as well as in their entirety in an installative arrangement – in which an infinite number of relationships can be established – they unfold their energetic potential.

In his series of works *Pallets*, de Ganay relieves the artistic objects of their functionality as load carriers. The powder-coated, monochrome blue aluminium elements expose empty spaces or fill them, depending on how one prefers to see them. In this way, objects are created that, alternating between sculpture and utility object, stimulate reflection processes on functionality and perception.

The fourth group of works, *Grids*, reflects an examination of the themes of creativity, inspiration and plagiarism and the fact that every artistic product requires intellectual and conceptual inspiration. Thus, each of the works recycles a foreign, artistic position in a certain way. De Ganay indexes with the works made of reinforcing steel decidedly well-known artistic positions, which historically have freed themselves from the flatness and confinement of works of art, encodes them in his own spatial grid-like formal language and thus gives them a new, visible presence. *“Why torture yourself when everything is readily available. To all those at a loss I recommend a measured dose of clear-sighted plagiarism with a breeze of lasting inspiration. A possible result: a bit of art.”* Sébastien de Ganay

With *Gestures*, de Ganay lets us participate in the creation processes of his works, when matter becomes form, when a thought forms into a concept. Humorous and reflective, his works are non-verbal statements on material, current issues, everyday objects, which impress with their complex simplicity and simple beauty.

Sébastien de Ganay lives and works in Bad Deutsch-Altenburg near Vienna, Austria. He studied political science and film at Columbia University in New York, USA and is co-founder of the art book publisher *onestar press*.

In addition to numerous exhibition participations, including the Centre Pompidou Paris, the Landesmuseum Niederösterreich in St. Pölten and the Institut Français in Vienna, de Ganay's works can be found in international, public institutions such as the 21er Haus-Belvedere, Vienna, Landesmuseum Niederösterreich, Magazin III - Museum & Stiftung für Gegenwartskunst, Stockholm, and in private collections.

For further information please contact Miriam Schwarz: [miriam@galerieburster.com](mailto:miriam@galerieburster.com)

galerie burster berlin | Kurfürstendamm 213 | 10719 Berlin

Opening hours

Wednesday – Friday 12 – 6pm

Saturday 12 – 4pm and by appointment