

Press Release

Op Weg Naar Fuping: A Month in China

23rd February to 26th March 2008

Opening: Saturday 23rd February, 2008. 16.00

Prior to their month long visit to the brand new Ceramic Art Museum in China, four artists represented by Galerie De Witte Voet will be showing recent work in the gallery. Tejo Philips, Anton Reijnders, Rem Posthuma and Nick Renshaw all plan to spend a month in Fuping with around 10 other Dutch ceramic artists. They will be working on sculptures which will then remain in the location in which they were constructed. The beautifully named 'Moon Hall' in Fuping, which is about an hour's flight from Beijing, will have the Dutch work on permanent display within an impressive Dutch pavilion as part of FLICAM.

Tejo Philips has recently been working on a large commission in Brussels and he plans to continue the theme for the current show as well as in China. The theme of surveillance is omnipresent in his work and it will be interesting to see how this develops as an idea when he's working in Fuping. He plans to visit modern and ancient locations to see how his theme of ceramic 'street furniture' can be further developed.

Anton Reijnders will carefully place over 160 pieces on the floor of the gallery in a rectangular shape measuring 120 by 210 cm. He says "The pieces within the rectangular will have a variety of forms, colours and dimensions".

Reijnders is planning to make a similar installation in Fuping and a series of photographs made during his journey and stay in China will be used as a starting point for the sculptures he makes.

Nick Renshaw will continue to make the various sized figurative sculptures that he's renowned for. He works on a few pieces at the same time and will include a series of small 'Terrestrial Being' figures. In his recent work he has been adding several horizontal layers of glaze. He says; "The wider stripes will be split into thinner stripes by the second glazing process". Visitors to the gallery will also get to see work which evolves from his residency at the Northern Clay Center in Minneapolis last year. Renshaw is very used to experimenting with materials and glazes and "reacting to the environment while bringing the ideas I'd been working towards before". For him in particular, he feels the close proximity of the Xi'an Terracotta Army will be of huge significance. "The fact I've made my own small army seems very relevant to the location of the museum".

Rem Posthuma will be showing small extruded pieces arranged in a rectangle on the gallery wall. This installation, consisting of pipes of different heights, will refer to processes of industrialisation while inviting pertinent questions about uniformity and the status of the 'unique' object.

All four artists will undoubtedly produce some outstanding work in their new location, and this exhibition is a taste of what will be a permanent display in a rapidly changing country. It is encouraging indeed to know that work by Dutch artists is to be recognised in such a prestigious and exciting new museum in South East Asia.