

SWISS INSTITUTE / CONTEMPORARY ART
495 BROADWAY / 3RD FLOOR
NEW YORK / NY 10012
TEL 212.925.2035
WWW.SWISSINSTITUTE.NET



DANIELE BUETTI
SPEAKING OF PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES
FEB 13 – MAR 22 2008

Opening reception: Tuesday Feb 12, 6-8pm

For Immediate Release

For his first institutional solo-show in the US, Daniele Buetti creates a site-specific installation that deliberately blurs the limits of the exhibition space. Visitors are plunged into a dense greenwood that reveals geometric ruins on the glade of the gallery floor. Buetti clashes minimal forms with decorative scenery. Sublime and irritating, this encounter makes the viewer not to see the forest for the trees. In pairing disparate frames, the artist offers a disorienting trip both simulated and real.

The geometric sculpture and the applied forest bridge minimalism and seventies home deco. At first the tiled structure sharply contrasts with the walls covered in timberland. Yet, the nature reveals itself to be as synthetic as the edifice. Covering the walls with a large-scale natural scene, the artist lances viewers into a well-known confusion. Similar to the terror imparted by the Romantic painters, Buetti's wallpaper entices a mental journey. However, the geometric construction roots the viewers to the physical world. Bewitching and bewildering, the physical attributes of this dual landscape seduces one into another state of perception.

An important contributor to Swiss art, Buetti's work is an expression of world-weariness; it focuses on the individual's precarious existential orientation. Eminently oppressive, the grotesque elements of his works trigger archetypal fears of the abnormal and evoke associations of violence and destruction. The Swiss Institute and Hatje Cantz are pleased to release the catalogue *Maybe You Can Be One of Us* to accompany Buetti's show in New York. It focuses on recent drawings, videos, sculptures, and installations with texts by Jacqueline Burckhardt, Beate Ermacora, Gianni Jetzer, Ferdinand Ullrich, and David Velasco.

Daniele Buetti lives and works in Zurich. He is a Professor at the Academy of Art in Münster. Select exhibitions include: Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt (2006), Sala Rekalde, Bilbao (2006), FRAC, Fonds Régional d'Art Contemporain, Marseille (2004), Helmhaus, Zurich (2003), and Migros Museum, Zurich (2000).

For more information please contact Gianni Jetzer: jet@swissinstitute.net