

YNGVE HOLEN**INTERSECTIONS BETWEEN THE BODY AND CONSUMPTION**

A recurring theme in the work of Norwegian-German sculptor Yngve Holen is the multilayered relationship between humans and technology. In Norway, his largest solo show to date, *Heinzerling*, is an opportunity for him to approach the intersection between the biology and the technology of our everyday surroundings.

Berlin, May 29, 2019 – In the works of Yngve Holens (*1982, Braunschweig, Germany) humans are noticeably absent. It is dominated by the components of complex devices separated from their original purpose, which develop a sculptural aura of their own. Dissected or otherwise divided industrial products reveal their unknown interior lives. Still, Holen's entire oeuvre is permeated by the influence of humans upon their environment. As the absent element, people drive technological progress and are influenced by it.

»What lies beyond the seemingly benign coated plastic of everyday electronic hardware, and what truth can those wiry innards whisper?« asks Anne Hilde Nest, director of the Kunstnernes Hus Oslo, and Hanne Mugaas, director and curator of the Kunsthall Stavanger, in their foreword.

There is a cryptic poetry in the chill of Holen's sculptural objects. The relationship between body and consumer culture remains an ambivalent one. Even though the dissected kettle allows us to see how it functions, it has been deprived of its functionality: Holen's works always explore the deconstruction of brand-name products and machines.

This attitude is especially obvious in the series *Rose Painting*: what initially seem to be wooden replicas of the centerpieces of auto rims turn out to be, on closer inspection, industrially manufactured products milled in cross-laminated timber—just like each one's respective model. In this way Yngve Holen's commentary on the status symbol of the SUV succeeds in capturing the ambivalence of a culture critical of consumerism.

The catalogue contains views of the show at the Kunstnernes Hus Oslo, works from the last decade of the artist's career, and photographs of a new, site-specific installation at the Holens's family cottage in Kvam, in Gudbrandsdalen, Norway.



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HEINZERLING

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In keeping with our ambition to make it possible to experience art beyond the medium of the book, Hatje Cantz has launched the EDITION HATJE CANTZ as we continue to expand our portfolio of strictly limited, signed editions featuring works on paper, photographic works of art, and art objects.

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