

# HOŠEK CONTEMPORARY

— EST. 2016 —

## MS HEIMATLAND GRAND OPENING

Opening reception: 27th April 2018, 7-10 pm

Hosek Contemporary is pleased to announce its first exhibition on board MS Heimatland, an old motor ship built over 100 years ago. The opening night, which also coincides with the launch of Berlin Gallery Weekend 2018, hosts two artists combining performance, sound and light. Gunnhildur Hauksdóttir is presenting a variation of her *Pendulum Choir* performance and an audio piece called *Five Drawings*, while Michael Klingner's minimalist light objects are illuminating the inside of the ship's cargo hold.

### MICHAEL KLINGNER

In MS Heimatland's cargo hold, Hošek Contemporary is showcasing seven new works from Michael Klingner. These intricate yet minimalist light objects provide a stark contrast to the rusty interior of the old ship. Made out of brass and coloured glass, every object is the result of patience, since each shape requires time to find its right place. Klingner creates with passion and a child-like respect for the object; cutting, soldering and combining different parts is a meticulous process, which cannot be rushed. The core idea is always revolving around the complex connection between the actual source of light, the shape and the material. After a few experiments with different kinds of acrylic glass and wood, brass has become his favourite material. Attracted by basic geometric forms, he is always attempting to reveal the beauty of the simplest shapes by tapping into their hidden potential or by peeling off some of their strictness. During the exhibition, the boat will have minimal lighting, ceding the space for his lights.

Currently Klingner is exploring the concept of connection and connecting in general. He is working on bigger shapes, which are no longer shapes in their own right, but always belong to some other field, for instance connecting to gravity and space. Almost anything can become a source of inspiration and Klingner's background in architecture is ever-present. One of the works on display, *P.E.G.H.*, is strongly linked to Peter Eisenman, an American architect and his series of blueprints for a conceptual house in Cádiz, Spain. Fascinated by his deconstructive approach, Klingner aims to follow his thought process from one alteration to another, until Eisenman's logic gets lost in itself between the endless rotations, superpositions and displacements of a basic geometrical shape, the cube.

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Born in 1989 in Jena, Germany, Michael Klingner's parents took him to Berlin at the age of two months. With a DDR background, the family stayed in the Eastern part of the city where Klingner grew up with his older brother, who also initiated him to graffiti at the age of 13. Always interested in drawing, he quickly grasped spray painting, spending most of his time outside practicing. Soon Graffiti became a priority in his life and after painting countless walls, trains, rooftops and stations, Klingner had become a successful street artist, achieving the fame he had hoped for.

While traveling overseas to Australia, Thailand and Brazil in 2010-2011, Klingner realized he wouldn't reach all his artistic goals through only focusing on illegal graffiti. He began studying architecture in 2012 and was offered a two-year position by a professor at his university, assisting other students with drawing and occasionally organising his own courses. The following year, he took a whole class on a field trip to Lisbon, driving through Europe and drawing everything they saw on the way. He cites Gerd Sedelies, an art professor who taught him about perspective, contrast and shape, as one of the greatest influences on his artistic development. Since 2013, Klingner has been creating light objects, a practice, which with his own words came to him under "obscure circumstances". He uses the artist name Veit Heart.

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