

BILLY

3 Bookcases, white, particleboard, paper foil, plastic edging, champagne glasses, glass, each 202 x 80 x 28 cm

I find the BILLY to be many a thing. In my mind is the perfect readymade, whilst being the perfect un-readymade and also inhabits a form of antithetical 'Objet de vertu' - works of art where extravagant invention and richness of materials overwhelm any practical use. The BILLY is instead a resolutely basic category of storage. It is funny and clunky and sturdy. It exists in every-other home as a servant of sorts, unapologetically literal and a particularly banal piece.

The ordinary, commonplace and domestic at home becomes an obstruction in the gallery, a wall, a column - a placeholder for something rigid and brute. With its butt against the window it obstructs that which is within, a showing of the non-shown, an air of the agency of monumentality of particleboard, paper foil, plastic edging.

Something cheap becomes something exclusive because of its setting. Because of its withdrawal from the market and masses. Inside, not on the shelf but in the shelf, another object whose value fluctuates entirely on its circumstance. Anything placed, moving or still inside a gallery varies in value according to its preexisting influence. But there is no quicker rise in the market of presence, the upperhand in the audience economy is clear and grasping glass at events where they have been limited. Accounting for the value of exclusion as its most profitable, not accidental or frugal pursestrings being drawn but calculated - just arrogant maths.

It is a harnessed skill of the artworld to be able to make something (relatively) cheap and (relatively readily) available, so entirely unattainable and codified. Perpetuating that which the same scene / charade / pantomime thrives off, values grasped in thin airs. Matters of class - probably just in the backroom but could just as well be stuck in a shelf.

KEINE ZEIT

Armband watch, unknown metal, removed face, worn by artist on opening, 24 x 3 x 1 cm

KUNST FORUM

Repurposed shower cubicle doors, Aluminium brackets, Kunstforum magazines, 230 x 165 x 76 cm

I couldn't think of a heavier matter of decorum, established tastes and standards weighing down on the head of the artist as the bible of categorisation of fine arts and good form. Atop a glass structure one feels the kind of nervousness of potential collapse even whilst admiring its robustness. Glass is a material which acts as an analogy of the paradoxalities of the artworld. Whilst transparent and see-through, a system of the emperor's new clothes, flagrant and blazen, also entirely opaque and impenetrable, oblique and arcane. A window-cum-wall. Sometimes reflecting on one's own position in the system and scene of fine arts can feel like a waiting game in a cubicle whose impending walls are closing in, in a kind of Indiana Jones moving spiked wall scenario only not in a dark and dingy grotto but on display in a bright lit white room.