

# RAZVAN BOTIS

## „TRYING TO PURCHASE WHAT I ONCE WANTED TO FORGET“

OPENING FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2011 AT 7 P. M.  
DURATION: JANUARY 14. – FEBRUARY 26. 2011

“Trying to purchase what I once wanted to forget“ is the literal title of the exhibition by Romanian artist Razvan Botis, which he developed during his three-month residency at Krinzinger Projekte. Characteristic for his work is the close link between words and objects. In his objects he uses the linguistic pluralism of implication and tries to balance between scientific sobriety and semiotic approach to culminate poetical lightness.

Razvan Botis has put together his his exhibition in a precise - but still humorous way. Both as an individual - and also as an artist - he is a part of everyday life and especially as an Artist in Residence he is thrust into a new environment. This amplifies his understanding of a divergent reality. He analyses sculptural concepts and their function, absorbing their pawn and manages to uncover hidden characteristics. This are advices of affinity in word, meaning and interpretation. They are often so banal that we can't recognize them. At this point Razvan Botis turns away from the classical sculptural production. His objects, often findings and readymades, are not to interpreted in a purely aesthetic way. Among the three exhibition rooms Razvan Botis has spanned an arch from the Modern Art to the atmosphere of departure in the 1980s to contemporary art discourse.

His way of working, his artistic development and the choice of exhibition title reveal an affinity to John Baldessari, Richard Wentworth and Ryan Gander. What is art and what isn't, doesn't necessarily depend on objective aesthetic criteria. It's rather a societal agreement. Razvan Botis identifies with this artistic ironical impeachment.

And so a quote from John Baldessari could function as an instruction for the exhibition:  
“Take a close look at the object as if you had never seen it before. Examine every aspect. Draw the outline with your eyes or with your hands in the air and let it run through your body.“  
John Baldessari

Razvan Botis born 1984, living and working in Cluj  
2003-2009 Ion Andreescu Art University, Cluj  
Selected exhibitions: 2011 *Trying to purchase what I once wanted to forget*, Krinzinger Projekte, Vienna, solo. 2010 *Abies firma*, <http://itsourplayground.com/>; *Crossing Limits*, Vienna Art Week, Vienna. *The Idiot*, Center for Visual Introspection, Bucharest, solo. 2009 *The Hill was a Mountain*, Andreiana Mihail Gallery, Bucharest, solo. *Missing Link*, Andreiana Mihail Gallery, Bucharest; *Invisible Body Conspicuous Mind*, Luckman Gallery, LA; *Young Romanian Art*, selection of works by Mircea Nicolae, ICR Venice. 2008 *Zahar/Pamant/Parizer*, 29 Gallery, Bucharest, solo. *Show and Tell*, Paradise Garage, Bucharest. *Land Export*, Zendai Moma, Shanghai. 2007 *Interferenzen*, Museum Keramion, Cologne.