

Marc Bijl

...towards our new construction

The Breeder gallery is proud to open the program of the Rental Gallery in Cologne with a solo exhibition by Dutch artist Marc Bijl (*1970 in Leerdam).

In this show Marc Bijl will present a new body of work, that is a mixture of modernism, mathematics and black romance.

Bijl's present works are inspired by human's desire to give structure to everyday life and to find answers to the questions about the meaning of life and death itself. Some answers can be found in religion, politics or (sub)culture and others in art and science. In this new composition of works Marc Bijl focusses specifically on abstract minimalism, modernism and the mathematic rules of the golden ratio, but in his own black romantic style, which is conflicting with the desire for formal precision. In his work "An effort to close the void that modern men feel", he refers to Robert Motherwell's essay "What Abstract Art Means to Me" from 1951. Motherwell sees abstract art as the problem solver to the disconnection of one's lonely self and the modern world. Bijl also picks up the attempts of Sol LeWitt and Gerrit Rietveld to create a new style for the changing world, that becomes more abstract and maybe even more radicalized. In his work „The downward spiral“, which is inspired by the eponymous Nine Inch Nail album, the order and perfection given by the golden ratio spiral is altered through Bijl's personal idea of perfect style. In doing this, Bijl suggests to the viewer to find one's own answer to universal questions.

After his solo show in Kunsthalle Fridericianum in Kassel from 17th of January until 15th of March, Marc Bijl will have his first retrospective exhibition in Domus Artium (DA2) in Salamanca on May 15th.

The **Rental Gallery** is an initiative of 'Verein zur Förderung des Kunststandortes Köln' (Society for the Promotion of Cologne as an Art Location) and will host exhibitions by international galleries. The founding members of Rental Gallery are Thomas Rehbein (chairman, Cologne), Christian Nagel (vice chairman, Cologne/Berlin), Thomas Treß (treasurer, Cologne), Dr. Brigitte Franzen (Aachen), Daniel Hug (Cologne), Esther Schipper (Berlin), Dr. Ulrich Soenius (Cologne) and Daniela Steinfeld (Düsseldorf).