

vander A , the brand new contemporary art jewellery gallery in Brussels showcases the artworks of Nathalie Perret (France) and Constanze Schreiber (Deutschland) on “memento mori “ from March 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> 2012.

The work of Nathalie Perret (France) is heavily influenced by the Latino American culture of mourning, with its rituals and ancient codes. Her research focuses on the duality of Birth and Death and the link between the two. Remind yourself that you are made of time, and you are going to leave a memorable mark but also a fleeting memory of your own death.

Nathalie Perret uses plaster for her remarkable, fleeting creations. The pallor of the object, the mark it leaves on the body when we wear it is her "Memento Mori" and it is the gesture of the ritual which is most important. What is thus highlighted, by extending the scope of perception, is that the performance, the experience of the object is focused on personal meanings rather than social significance.

“Accepting the existence of the object as an independent thing and thus attempt to see it with fresh eyes”. Nathalie Perret invites us to objects’ reappropriation. With the question of object’s trace and by submitting us to the performative action, we understand that objects have a kind of second chance.

More information on Nathalie Perret:

[http://www.vanderagallery.be/artists/nathalie-perret/index\\_en.php](http://www.vanderagallery.be/artists/nathalie-perret/index_en.php)

Fascinated by mourning jewellery from the 19th and 20th centuries, Constanze Schreiber (DE) uses in her contemporary jewels the symbols and archetypes of the past that are still valid today (skull, pearls) but with new metaphors out of today’s difficulties (divorces, new start or displaced persons) she underlines the complexity of our time which could come in addition to a mourning state. Her wonderful uncommon jewels made of iron, silver, porcelain or soap bring the theme of mourning into discussion, for most people an inconvenient topic to be confronted with. In her pendants and objects Constanze also shows that, even while being in a mourning state, a memory can create preciousness.

In her series of works “Abschiedsfest” she has research ways to deal with mourning and loss. Exploring superstitions and rituals of the past, the result is a provocative new jewel challenging the protective aspect of traditional jewellery such as the amulets or talismans. In this respect, integrating new values into a traditional object is also dealing with re-appropriation of object or new object meanings.

More information on Constanze Schreiber:

[http://www.vanderagallery.be/artists/constanze-schreiber/index\\_en.php](http://www.vanderagallery.be/artists/constanze-schreiber/index_en.php)