



kvadrat

Roman Signer House

Kvadrat Headquarters, Denmark

From 16 June 2017

Swiss artist Roman Signer creates the site-specific piece *House* on the grounds of Kvadrat headquarters in Denmark

Kvadrat is proud to present *House*, a new site-specific sculpture by Swiss artist Roman Signer on the grounds of Kvadrat headquarters in Ebeltoft, Denmark. The permanent work, commissioned by Kvadrat, consists of a stylised house made of steel, with an inverted roof that creates a basin collecting rainwater inside the construction.

The building, of approximately 4 × 4 meters, is painted red on the outside and aluminium-grey on the inside, following the common practice of painting a house's facade in a different colour from its roof and interiors. A small pipe placed on the house front expels the water that is being collected inside, acting like a natural fountain.

In over four decades of artistic practice, Signer has defined his own very peculiar approach to sculpture, often blurring the distinction between performance and sculpture and always taking process as a central part of his sculptural practice. The turning of a familiar form, such as the stylised house in this case, into something paradoxical, outside of its common use, is one of the main characteristics of Signer's work, in which everyday, familiar objects are often combined with natural elements, creating a unexpected relationship that changes the status of both.

The house is here the formal pretext to create the rainwater-collecting basin on its inside, shifting the main focus of the sculpture from its form to the process that sees the water moving from the inside to the outside.

As the artist explains: *'When I saw this land I imagined a small red house standing there. From afar, the house looks like a ruin, with a collapsed roof and only the external walls left. But as one comes closer and looks through the window, one can see that there is a roof, only it is inverted on the inside. It must be beautiful to look at it when it rains heavily, following how the rainwater collects and flows out of it. But you got to have an umbrella. The house doesn't give you any shelter!'*

"Roman always brings an element of humanity and humour," adds Anders Byriel, CEO, Kvadrat

The work is the third collaboration between Kvadrat and Roman Signer, following the series *Tuch* and *Bogen* (2009) and the work *Flying and painting* (2016). *House* is Signer's first permanent intervention in the landscape around the Kvadrat's HQ.

Roman Signer's *House* is presented in collaboration with Kunsthal Aarhus as part of Aarhus 2017 and curated by Francesca Astesani and Julia Rodrigues from South into North.

From 16 June 2017

House by Roman Signer

Kvadrat

Lundbergsvej 10

8400 Ebeltoft

Press preview and interviews by invitation

14 June 2017

About Roman Signer

Roman Signer (Appenzell, 1938, lives and works in St. Gallen) has participated in prestigious international art exhibitions such as Documenta in Kassel (1987), Skulptur Projekte Münster (1997) and the Shanghai Biennale (2012). In 1999, he represented Switzerland at the 48th International Art Exhibition - la Biennale di Venezia. He has widely shown internationally in prominent institutions including: the Camden Arts Centre and the Barbican Arts Centre in London (2001 and 2015); Hamburger Bahnhof in Berlin (2007) and the Swiss Institute in New York (2010). In recent years, a travelling exhibition showing Roman Signer's Super8 films was presented at different locations in China including the CAFA Art Museum in Beijing (2014) and the GAFA Art Museum in Guangzhou. The same exhibition was also displayed in Italy at MAN in Nuoro (2016).

Throughout his career, Signer has made more than fifty permanent sculptures, mostly in Switzerland but also in other locations including: Trivero (IT), Bochum (DE), Klein Göpfritz (AT), Hallstatt (AT), Nantes (FR), Lismore Castle (IR). A new commission in Cleveland (US) is also currently being realized.

About Kvadrat

Kvadrat was established in Denmark in 1968 and has deep roots in Scandinavia's design tradition. Kvadrat continuously works to expand the aesthetic, technological and artistic boundaries of the use of textiles through a long series of collaborations with some of the world's best designers, architects and artists, among others Miriam Bäckström, Raf Simons, Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec, Thomas Demand, Olafur Eliasson, Alfredo Häberli, Akira Minagawa and Peter Saville.

Art projects include; Kirstine Roepstorff at the Danish Pavilion, 57th la Biennale di Venezia, Venice (2017), Pipilotti Rist at New Museum, New York (2016), Philippe Parreno at Tate Modern, London (2016), Joana Vasconcelos at Aros, Aarhus (2016), Goshka Macuga at Fondazione Prada, Milan (2016), Philippe Parreno at HangarBicocca, Milan (2016), Shilpa Gupta at 56th la Biennale di Venezia, Venice (2015), Günther Vogt and Olafur Eliasson, Your Glacial Expectations, Kvadrat Headquarters, Ebeltoft (2012), Thomas Demand at Städel Museum, Frankfurt (2011).

For further information, please contact press@kvadrat.dk

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