

**SOL LEWITT. Artist's Books**

22 January – 13 March, 2011

**SOL LEWITT\_Symposium**

19/20 February, 2011

**SOL LEWITT. ARTIST'S BOOKS****22 January – 13 March, 2011**

The exhibition *SOL LEWITT. Artist's Books* at Art Laboratory Berlin presents the complete oeuvre of 75 artist's books produced by the American conceptual artist Sol LeWitt. LeWitt (1928 - 2007) was an influential figure in minimalism and is considered one of the most important representatives, as well as co-founder, of American conceptual art. He became known for his term "conceptual art": the idea itself and the process with all the intervening steps are as much works of arts as any finished product. Regarding the room as an object (LeWitt preferred the term "structures"), the wall drawings or his artist's books: the idea itself was always more important than its physical elaboration. Unlike the Minimal Art's expression of abstraction as an object ("objecthood"), Sol LeWitt's work becomes a medium of signs.

LeWitt's intensive artist books production began in the sixties. According to him, these books are neither instructions on how to understand his art, nor simple catalogues but works of art on their own, a mobile medium for a broader public. The exhibition shows all the plurality of the book production of Sol LeWitt: from early artist books that sketch concepts ("Serial Project #1", 1967) to his works of the seventies and eighties where he utilises photography ("Photogrids", 1977, "Autobiography" 1980 or "Chicago" 2002), from black-and-white booklets to coloured leporellos.

Art Laboratory Berlin

Prinzenallee 34

13359 Berlin

[www.artlaboratory-berlin.org](http://www.artlaboratory-berlin.org)[info@artlaboratory-berlin.org](mailto:info@artlaboratory-berlin.org)

Opening hours: Fri – Sun, 2-5 PM and by appointment

Tour: every Sunday, 3PM. Private viewing and seminars by arrangement.

**SOL LEWITT\_SYMPOSIUM****19/20 February, 2011**

Venue: Glaskasten, Prinzenallee 33, 13359 Berlin (next door to Art Laboratory Berlin)

An occasion in which all the artist books of Sol LeWitt are gathered into one exhibition invites further study. As we have done in previous exhibitions Art Laboratory Berlin would like to bring together artistic practice and scholarly debate, in this case in the form of a symposium. The complex nature of Sol LeWitt's artists' books specifically calls for examination by a variety of disciplines.

Beginning with a survey of the concept and the conceptual in LeWitt's work, continuing with a reflection on the medium of the book and the problem of authorship, the initial contributions will sketch LeWitt's art from art historical and literary perspectives. Additionally, contributions from the philosophy of art, musicology and mathematics will reflect on space and time, the question of a possible terminology and the phenomenon of serial geometric forms. Similarly, LeWitt's aesthetic production and his relationship to graphic design will be discussed. Finally, contributions from an artistic perspective as well as those of friends and collectors will illuminate practical and theoretical aspects of LeWitt's artistic work.

## Program

### Saturday 19 February, 2011

The exhibition will be open from 12-8PM.

14:00

**Regine Rapp** Art Historian, Art Laboratory Berlin  
Welcome and Opening

Keynote

**Gregor Stemrich** Art Historian, Free University Berlin  
*"smart enough to be dumb". Sol LeWitts Konzept des "Konzeptuellen"*

15:30 Break

16:00

**Annette Gilbert** Philologist, Free University Berlin  
*"[To] be read as a complete thought". Zu Sol LeWitts Verständnis des Buchs als (künstlerisches) Medium*

**Manuela Schöpp** Art Historian, Humboldt University Berlin  
*Sol LeWitts Konzept der Autorschaft in seiner Autobiography*

17:30 Break

18:00

**Paul Maenz** Collector, Berlin  
*Sol LeWitt - 100 Dollar und die Folgen...*

**Ken Wahl** Artist, Berlin/ New York  
*Embodying the Concept: Sol LeWitt and the Aesthetic Paradox*

**Jonathan Monk** Artist, Berlin  
*The Location of Eight Points*

20:00 Reception in Foyer  
followed by a buffet in the restaurant *Relais de Savanne*, Prinzenallee 33

### Sunday 20 February, 2011

The exhibition will be open from 12-8PM.

14:00

**Adrian Piper** Artist and Philosopher, Berlin  
*Die Einheit in Sol LeWitts Œuvre*

**Volker Straebel** Musicologist, Technical University Berlin  
*Werkbegriff und Partitur-Metapher in Sol LeWitts wall drawings*

**Michael Rottmann** Mathematician and Art Historian, Free University Berlin  
*"To See the Program in it." Zur Rolle der Mathematik in der seriellen Kunst von Sol LeWitt*

16:00 Break

16.30

**Sabeth Buchmann** Art Historian and Critic, Akademie der Bildenden Künste Wien/ Berlin  
*(In-)Visible Things on Paper*

**Aissa Deebi** Artist and Graphic Designer, American University Cairo  
*Sol LeWitt as a Conceptualist Designer. Theory and Practice in Post-war Graphic Art*

18:00

**Regine Rapp** Art Historian, Art Laboratory Berlin  
*Conclusion*

Venue of the symposium: Glaskasten (the former. *Schmidt's Ballhouse*),  
Prinzenallee 33, 13359 Berlin (next door to Art Laboratory Berlin)

The symposium is open to the public and does not charge an admission fee (donations are welcome). The language of presentation corresponds to the respective announcements in the program; questions and contributions in both German and English, during the discussion, are of course possible.

Symposium concept: Regine Rapp, Art Laboratory Berlin  
Organisation and realisation: Regine Rapp, Christian de Lutz, Christina Korzen, Heiko Pfreundt, the Art Laboratory Berlin Team

Contact: [presse@artlaboratory-berlin.org](mailto:presse@artlaboratory-berlin.org)

**In cooperation with:**

**VIAINDUSTRIÆ**



Corraini Edizioni



*Special thanks to Michael Schröder for his support of Art Laboratory Berlin and this exhibition*

**Supported by:**

