

PRESS RELEASE

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BÄRBEL ROTHHAAR BEE WORKS

OCTOBER 1 to NOVEMBER 14, 2009

Opening: October 1 from 5 to 8 pm, the artist will be present

Acclaimed German Artist Bärbel Rothhaar Creates A Buzz With New Work

MONTREAL, September 15, 2009 — The acclaimed Berlin-based artist Bärbel Rothhaar renews her longstanding relationship with Galerie Samuel Lallouz and the Montreal art public with a remarkable exhibition of recent works. The exhibition will open on October 1, 2009 and will run through November 14. The vernissage will be held on October 1 at 5 pm. The artist will be present. Everyone is welcome.

The star of this exhibition, apart from the artist herself, is the honey bee. Rothhaar employs the industry of bees to help create figurative wax sculptures. She inserts wax sculptures into thriving beehives and lets the bees do their work. The honeycombed structures they build on the heads and other sculpted body parts resemble cortical networks. They are placed in wood frames and are often further embellished with mixed media.

In collaboration with photographer Jordan Lallouz, she has taken images of the bees and sculptures, and then enlarged and reworked the photographic prints. These canvas-mounted prints complement the mixed media sculptures on exhibit.

This work interrogates the boundaries that exist between public and private space. Rothhaar sees the bee colony as a super-organism which explodes those boundaries.

Bees are essential to the ecosystems that support food production for humans. In fact, the vast majority of our global food crops are pollinated by bees. Albert Einstein once said, "If the honeybee goes extinct, we have four more years on Earth." At a time when both domesticated bees and wild bees are facing serious threats to their survival, Bärbel Rothhaar is drawing our attention to their plight, and collaborating with them in the production of her work.

An artist, she is also a true apiarist, for in drawing attention to the threats to the existence of bees, she is commenting upon our own possible fate, since if measures are not taken soon to protect wild and domestic bees, agriculture and natural plant growth will be threatened, with terrifying consequences for us all.

Rothhaar is a sculptor, painter and performance artist who has exhibited with Galerie Samuel Lallouz for a quarter century. Art lovers of all stripes are encouraged to come to the gallery to see her work and that of her industrious collaborators.

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In collaboration with Intermiel: www.intermiel.comFor additional information please contact the gallery: info@galeriesamuellallouz.com