



**ARTPRESS**

UTE WEINGARTEN

## Invitation to Artists Talk

with **Jani Leinonen** and **Jiri Geller**

**Saturday 2nd February 2013 from 14.00 to 16.00**

**at Salon Dahlmann, Marburger Straße 3, 10789 Berlin**

in the company of the Minister of Culture and Sport in Finland, Mr Paavo Arhinmäki



Installation Shots Teaser left: **Jiri Geller**: *Sugar Happy (green)*, 2013, Painted fiberglass, steel, 29 x 29 x 79cm; *Sugared II (2)*, 2013, Painted resin, carbon fiber, steel, 51 x 67 x 61 cm; *Sugar Happy (pink)*, 2012, Painted fiberglass, steel, 29 x 29 x 79 cm | right: Vilhelm Sjöström, Courtesy Showroom Helsinki | **Jani Leinonen**: *Hated by Many*, 2012, Acrylic on wood, 175 x 245 cm, *Headstones, Sugar Rush*, 2012, Acrylic on wood, 164 x 204 cm; *Chiquita & Elovena*, 2009, Acrylic on printed canvas, 130 x 100 cm; *Elovena & Ronald*, 2009, Oil on canvas, 206 x 140 cm.

**Showroom Helsinki presents**

## TEASER

**Aurora Reinhard, Jiri Geller, Mari Keto and Jani Leinonen**

**Showroom Helsinki** proudly presents **TEASER from 20<sup>th</sup> January to 17<sup>th</sup> February 2013** – a selection of works by the most influential young Finnish contemporary artists. Founded in 2008, the gallery **Showroom Helsinki** is showing the highlights of its programme at Salon Dahlmann Berlin. Combining a critical perspective and meticulous craftsmanship with a humorous and aesthetic treatment, the works of Jiri Geller, Mari Keto, Jani Leinonen and Aurora Reinhard explore the

boundaries between constructed, commercial culture and individual, materialistic addiction. TEASER presents these prominent Finnish artists by composing a strong body of works from international private and institutional collections. By including elaborate sculptures, accusatory installations and tenacious imagery, the exhibition provokes observant attention to the prevailing phenomena of society.

**Jiri Geller**, b.1970, explores the contemporary face of pop culture with menacing precision. His accomplished, detailed sculptures serve up cold irony and raw critique by questioning the dominant, neoliberal *iconophilia*. He explores the idea that everything in our society deemed solid, permanent and valuable is in fact melting, suspect and utterly transitory.

**Jani Leinonen**, b.1978, plays with the systems of commodity exchange and their corresponding marketing strategies. He throws light on the tactics of commercial operations by turning them into objects of ridicule, parodying the unstated assumptions of our marketing society and economic daily life.

**Mari Keto**, b.1975, examines the distinctions between value and consumption in her works. She focuses on the tensions and structures of our contemporary culture by using predominantly diamonds, crystals, pearls and other materials used in making jewellery to depict icons and symbols in her delicate installations and portraits.

**Aurora Reinhard**, b.1975, creates controversial artwork that explores tensions and structures in contemporary society – in particular our obsessive representation of gender and female sexuality. Reinhard uses video, photography and multidimensional media in her hyperrealistic works in order to *fetishize* everyday objects.

**Salon Dahlmann** | [www.marburger3.de](http://www.marburger3.de) | [info@marburger3.de](mailto:info@marburger3.de)

**Opening times:** Wednesday - Friday 15.00 – 20.00 | Saturday - Sunday 12.00 – 16.00.

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