

Press Release

Daniel Spoerri

30 September – 13 November 2022

Opening Thursday 29 September 2022

Karma International is happy to present the first solo show of Daniel Spoerri at the gallery.

Born as Daniel Isaac Feinstein in 1930 in Galati, Romania, Spoerri grew up in Switzerland and currently lives and works in Vienna. His career started in the 1950s as a ballet dancer in Bern, after which he moved on to creating art and became one of the founding members of the Nouveau Réalisme. Today he is best known for his 'snare-pictures' (Fallenbilder), a type of assemblage where he suspends objects in time – for example, the aftermath of a meal including plates, silverware, glasses, food leftovers and cigarette ashes – which are affixed to a table and then hung on a wall.

The show comprises works from as early as 1964, including ones exhibited in Spoerri's acclaimed retrospective at Centre Pompidou, Paris (1990). One such work is as a large-scale diptych entitled 'La Trottinette', 1975. In this assemblage several types of shoes, an old-fashioned prostate leg, a torso with a crutch and a wooden trottinette are all glued on three gate-like wooden boards.

The show additionally features a number of Spoerri's 'Orakelbilder', assemblages of embroidery on pieces of cloth that show Spoerri's affinity to poetry and puns. Several new works that were previously exhibited at 'Kunststaulager Spoerri', a museum that the artist opened in 2009 in Hadersdorf am Kamp (Austria), are also on display.

Solo exhibitions include MAMAC, Nice; FRAC Midi-Pyrénées, Toulouse; MOCÁK – Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Krakau; Ludwig Museum, Vienna; Museum of Contemporary Art, Budapest; Kasseler Kunstverein, Kassel; Kunsthaus Wien, Vienna; Centre Pompidou - Musée National d'Art Moderne, Paris.

Group exhibition include Kunsthalle Vienna; Museum für Angewandte Kunst (MAK), Vienna; Nouveau Musée National de Monaco, Monaco; De Vleeshal, Mödelburg; MOCA - Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL; Haus konstruktiv, Zurich; Museum für Gegenwart, Berlin; MoMA - Museum of Modern Art, New York City, NY.