

# Galerie Francesca Pia

## Press Release

October, 2007

**Aloïs Godinat**  
**HO HA**

November 10 - December 22, 2007  
Opening: Friday, November 9, 2007, 6 - 8 p.m.

Galerie Francesca Pia is pleased to present works by the young Swiss artist, Aloïs Godinat. Born in 1978, Godinat lives and works in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Aloïs Godinat has a keen eye for the artistic and aesthetic potential of everyday objects. With subtle gestures that shun any heroism, Godinat explores the slightest possibilities of artistic creativity. A play with shifts of perspective and context results in a formal vocabulary that is characterized by austerity and an astonishing simplicity. Godinat's rearrangements and permutations always remain fragile, in constant danger of falling apart or tipping over.

In its present show titled *HO HA*, Galerie Francesca Pia offers a survey of the artist's developing oeuvre. A simple wooden wedge reproduced in black plastic proves to be not merely an aesthetic object, but a remarkably universal one, too. Thus, a large number of wedges can add up to a black, rectangular block (*Caie* 2005), bringing to mind the history of abstraction. Or the inconspicuous wedge itself nearly causes a massive block – a loudspeaker box – to tip over (*Untitled* 2005). Both the wedges and the plain wooden stilts Godinat manufactures are to be understood as emblems of transformation, upheaval, or destabilization – the processes that are the focus of his art. In recent years, Godinat has worked on a series of torn posters, mostly exhibition announcements. *Déchirure* (2004-2007), on the one hand, refers to the violent tearing-up of found and gathered pictures. At the same time, *Déchirure*, with its meaning of "laceration," offers a new perspective on the fragmentary image. Eliminating the pictorial organization, it instead illuminates the detail which, by definition, connotes the void. While picking up and continuing existing trends of abstraction and Minimal Art, Godinat, at the same time, playfully undermines them by stripping them of any ideological weight.

Galerie Francesca Pia, Limmatstrasse 275, 8005 Zurich, [www.francescapia.com](http://www.francescapia.com)

Next exhibition: Joanne Tatham & Tom O'Sullivan, opening January 18, 2008, 6-8 p.m.

Current exhibitions of work by Aloïs Godinat  
Musée Jenisch, *Denis Savary*, Vevey, Switzerland

Major recent exhibitions:

Galerie chez Valentin, *La Pensée Sauvage*, Group Exhibition, Paris, 2007  
Artist Space, *Aloïs Godinat*, New York, 2007  
Amberg and Marti, *Amberg and Marti zeigen Aloïs Godinat*, Zurich, 2007  
Liste 06, *National Insurance Award*, Basel, 2006  
MAMCO, *Yellow Pages, Team 404*, Geneva, 2004

Awards

Atelier vaudois du 700ème, Cité Internationale des Arts de Paris, 2007  
National Insurance Art Award, 2006  
Prix Visarte, 2005