

de: F O R M A T I O N

The Value of Change

My interest lay in the dealings of VALUE. The value topic has many aspects, including how it is created and promoted. The motivational forces behind significant changes have deep value roots. The most noticeable is the radical and sudden shift for change, causing a revolution, but my focus for this work is related to more subtle and defined shifts, created by evolutionary forces within a system.

The search stumbled instantly on religion, past and present and how religion manoeuvres and manipulate elementary truths. These totalities in eternal truths are human's greatest motivators, but also its weakest link. We only have to look how belittling doctrines made friends into foes, creating blood thirsty holy wars. The main religions have been all convincingly associated with these bloodsheds. But undeniably the forces and motivators in its doctrine are powerful and true.

Disgruntled people will react on whatever went before. It might be with subtle pressure or with violence. For any kind of change propaganda for the new is needed. Doctrines have been effectively used by religious groups, political parties, dictators and lobbyists. Lately social networks became unexpectedly powerful broadcasters. The knowledge that a political regime promotes depravity, corruption, suppression, fatalism, fundamentalism, antagonism, elitism, absolutism, immorality and/or excessive poverty can nowadays within social networks advance into extremities for change. The social uproar in North African, Middle Eastern countries and India are recent samples. Ultimately many more of these kinds of uproars will follow, if the new change refuses certain human universal freedoms. These freedoms seem to be linked to how the internet has formed its own global democracy, threatening the traditional hierarchal power systems. Some leaders concentrate hard to deflect such imploding extremities through concealed political deviations, like gigantic firewalls or manipulative speculation. It is all a matter in the creation of public ignorance. Roman leaders gave bread and circuses; today we have the perception of democracy, TV and shopping.

The two people I focused on are the western reformers Luther and Calvin. Both have created significant change for better or worse. At the time reformism was born out of frustration of the corrupt and immoral practices by the roman church. The reform was intended as a matter of modification, rather than destruction, but it did motivate the outcome in Holland of the 80 year war with Spain.

The transformative change of the reformists created pathways for the rational philosophies of the enlightenment and ultimately our own complex society. The change mortifies when some knowledge of the old is transmuted into the new, forming variations of the old.

What is left in the process of such transformations are the wounds of the memory, the new doctrines and the historic symbols used as tokens or souvenirs of the cause.

Peter Deckers Short CV

Education:

1973 – 1977 Diploma, Technical Institute for jewellery making and design, MTS vakschool, Schoonhoven (NL)

1980 – 1981 CPDB, post grad teaching paper, Academy of Fine Arts, Rotterdam (NL)

1981 – 1982 Fine Arts study, Academy of Fine Arts, Rotterdam (NL)

2000 Cat certificate, teacher's training, WCP, Porirua (NZ)

2001 – 2003 MFA (honours), Elam school of art, Auckland University, Auckland (NZ)

Exhibitions:

2010 DANNER-ROTUNDE Schmuck in der Pinakothek der Moderne (Jewellery in the Pinakothek Museum) Munich, Germany. Curated by Karl Fritsch.

2010 Moving Targets and Pleasure Beast Thinkspace [solo exhibition of two installations with 20 object/jewellery works in each - an investigation of targets and what it can mean to be in the sights of others]. Masterworks Gallery, 14 October-24 November, Auckland, New Zealand.

2010 Pocket Guide to New Zealand Jewellery, Velvet Da Vinci Gallery, 13 - 28 February, San Francisco, USA; Racine Art Museum, 12 June 2011- 23 October 2011, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

2010 The Plastic Show, Velvet Davinci Gallery, 1 -31 October, San Francisco, US.

2010 Compendium Show, Group Exhibition, Fingers Gallery, 28 June-17 July, Auckland, New Zealand.

2010 Winter Brooches, Gallery 20/17, 4 May-6 June, Sydney, Australia.

2010 Fingers Annual Group Show, Auckland

2011 The Girl with the memory, The SeeHere installation, solo show in collaboration with Hilda Gascard

2011 Overcast: Contemporary Jewellery: A Co-conspiracy. National Jewellery Show [group exhibition curated by Renee Bevan, in conjunction with the New Dowse, Lower Hutt], 6-8 June, Michael Fowler Centre, Wellington, NZ

2011 The SeeHere show, member's group exhibition with Shadow Makeweights installation, Masterworks, Auckland, NZ

2011 SATELLITE poster-work for GIVE & TAKE (Pleasure Beast), two simultaneous exhibitions at Auckland Art Fair

2011 and the SeeHere, Wellington (2 solo exhibitions)

2011 Fingers Annual Group show, Fingers Gallery, Auckland. 31 October – 11 November.

2012 – 13 Retrospect, travelling group exhibition, Auckland and Wallace Gallery Morrinsville , Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt.

2012 Jewelism, Fingers, group exhibition (Jemposium 8nvited group show)

2012 Fingers Annual Group show, Fingers Gallery, Auckland

2013 de:FORMATION, installation, SeeHere gallery, Wellington

2013 Beijing International Jewelry Art Biennial,(CN)

2013 Fingers annual exhibition

2014 Dove Poo, installation SeeHere gallery, Wellington

2014 Schmuck, Handwerkmesse, Munich

2014 Wunderruma , NZ jewellery exhibition, Gallery Handwerk, Munich and The Dowse, Lower Hutt

2014 Multiple Exposures, MAD, New York

Curation:

2011-13 Handshake, Prentice and Prodigy, project: 12 mentees select 12 hero mentors, exhibitions' project 1 Studio 20/17, Sydney, Australia -The National Jewellery show, Wellington - Masterworks, Auckland - Toi Poneke, Wellington - The National, Christchurch – The Handwerk&Design Messe, Munich – and collaboration project at: Objectspace (2014) Auckland – (funded by Creative New Zealand) (<http://handshakeproject.com/>)

2014 – 2017 Handshake 2 and Handshake3 projects (<http://handshakeproject.com/>)

Publications:

2010 Pocket Guide to New Zealand Jewellery, dr Damian Skinner, Velvet Davinci, San Francisco

2011 21st Century Jewelry: The Best of the 500 Series, Marthe Le Van (co-judging and participation), Lark Books

Peter Deckers

2012 500 Rings New Directions in Art Jewelry (500 Series), Bruce Metcaff/Marthe Le Van, Lark Books

2013 HANDSHAKE- 12 Contemporary Jewellers meet their Hero, Duffy.M and Deckers.P, JEMbooks, Wellington,
<http://handshakejewellery.com/book/>

2013 Beijing International Jewelry Art Bienalle, catalogue

2014 Wunderruma catalogue