

LUHRING AUGUSTINE

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Reinhard Mucha *Hidden Tracks*

November 2, 2013 – January 11, 2014
Opening reception: Friday, November 1, 6 – 8pm

Luhring Augustine is pleased to announce the opening of *Hidden Tracks* an exhibition of recent work by the German artist Reinhard Mucha. This marks artist's first solo show in New York in thirteen years, continues to reveal Mucha as one of the most significant artists of his generation. Throughout Mucha's artistic production of the past four decades run themes of collective identity, memory, nationalism, the psychology of architecture and power, the museum as the locus for the creation of history, and the merging of industrial, historical and political landscapes. His complex work penetrates several dualities: connectivity and isolation, temporality and permanence, intimate narrative and national history, progress and stasis.

Hidden Tracks features a selection of vitrine works by Mucha from the past five years; most of the works in the exhibition have never before been shown publicly. Mucha's longtime use of the vitrine as a formal device in his sculptures – both wall works and floor works, hanging and standing – is a method through which he explores the evocation, depiction, conservation, and illustration of memories and history. The wall vitrine especially becomes a type of stage on which is presented the unspoken with the literal, the visible with the invisible, the publicly-minded with the personal. Even more pointedly, the hanging of the wall vitrine on the wall of the gallery or museum transforms the sculpture into a virtual window into the workings of the exhibiting institution.

Reinhard Mucha was born in Düsseldorf, Germany in 1950 and studied with Klaus Rinke at the Düsseldorf Academy of Art, where he began to develop his highly complex artistic language that would find full form in a number of seminal installations in Europe throughout the 1980s and 1990s. These include **Gladbeck** at the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris in 1986; **Mutterseelenallein** at the Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt a.M. in 1991-1999, and since 2009 at Castello di Rivoli Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Torino; **Das Deutschlandgerät** at the 44th Venice Biennale in 1990; **Wartesaal** at documenta X, Kassel in 1997; and **Stockholmer Raum, Für Rafael Moneo** at the Moderna Museet, Stockholm in 1998. His work is in the permanent collections of numerous international public institutions, including the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Tate Modern, London; Nationalgalerie, Berlin; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; Art Institute of Chicago; and the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.. Mucha resides and works in Düsseldorf.

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