

STEVE RODEN · STUDIO LA CITTÀ

8 April - 15 May 2006 - curated by Valerio Dehò

The work of this Californian Artist are a series of victorious gambles about the relationships between form, colour, and music. In a certain sense we could say that Roden has, through 'internal resonance', managed to fulfil Kandinsky's aim of using music as a model for the language of art. But in fact the game becomes far more complex in its balance between its intermedial aspects and reciprocal allusions. The 'translation' levels the artist invents in work after work are never intended to follow a code nor to become imprisoned in a single formula. They keep all the expressive and combinatory freedom of direct and spontaneous works. We are never aware of anything particularly 'constructed', even though it is clear that Steve Roden has, in over ten years activity, acquired a sophisticated and mature linguistic capacity.



The fascination of his works is to be found in this structured indeterminacy, in this possibility for a continual dialogue with silence. Perhaps Walter Pater's statement that 'All arts tend to the state of music' is not completely true. Perhaps silence is the music we should evoke as the metaphysical complement to the spirituality and evocative capacity of colour. Colour tends to become a pattern or a morphological composition, like a map. Indeed, often the relationship becomes contrapuntal and marks and colours become the protagonists of a dialogue with a visually organised background. No single element ever prevails over the others. The principle of balance dominates everything, and a new perception appears halfway between sound and vision, a 'feeling' that is a new state of awareness.

STEVE RODEN was born in 1964 in Pasadena where he lives and works

SELECTED RECENT SHOWS:

- 2006 Studio la Città, Verona
Susanne Vielmetter Projects, Los Angeles, CA
Otis/LA - nine decades of Los Angeles art, Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2005 Steve Roden / transmissions from space, Fresno Metropolitan Museum of Art and Science, Fresno, CA
Loops, G fine art, a cura di Christoph Cox, Washington, DC
Seamarks a solo exhibition, Walter and McBean Galleries, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA
Sound like drawing, The drawing room, a cura di Anthony Huberman, London
Soundwalk, Downtown, Long Beach, CA
Wordplay, Julie Saul Gallery, a cura di Tamar Cohen, New York, NY
Je ne regrette rien, Studio la Città, Verona
Light sculpture /scultura leggera, 503 Mulino, a cura di Simone Menegoi, Vicenza
Listen (part of the sons et lumieres exhibition), Center George Pompidou Museum, Paris
- 2004 Susanne Vielmetter, Projects, Los Angeles, CA
Ear(th), Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, CA
Cups into Clouds/Songs into Rain, Gallery E/Static, Torino
Stills (For Guru Dutt), tang Museum at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York, NY



above:
Finding words in notes (music for six hands) - 2006
sound composition, audio equipment, wood, acrylic,
poliurethane, hand maid quilt.
152.4 x 76.2 x 35.6 cm.

below:
Oionos - 2006
oil, acrylic, poliurethane su linen
50.8 x 88.9 cm.