

Mary Mary

GSS GALLERY PRESS RELEASE, MAY / JUNE 2007

Lotte Gertz

Woodcut printing, painting and drawing form the basis of Lotte Gertz practice. The work evolves through an all-encompassing approach to the material where mark-making, colour choice, play and manipulation all form part of the process. Accumulated works are revisited and often reconfigured through cut and paste methods, developing imagery that sits between formal concerns and narrative.

Gertz' latest body of work draws inspiration from Max Ernst's sculptural works alluding to the creation of an alter ego which has led to a play with identity and disguises.

Surreal imagery coupled with abstract elements dominate the work. The repeated vision of a masked figure and facial features at first appears quite playful but gives way to underlying macabre and dark edge themes.

The layering of imagery gives Gertz' work a sculptural quality. The tactile surfaces evoke depth and form optical illusions as seen in *Tycho presents: The Dissolving Quadrant*, where we find remnants of the artist's process and technique. Through a delicate constructed process, made up of finely cut fragments of other works, Gertz explores the flexibility of chance that printmaking can offer and contrasts this with the strictly cut and placed use of collage.

The titles of her work hint at the buried presence of their original narrative or visual inspiration drawn from poetry, architecture or personal memory.