

'Tuch' and 'Bogen', 2009



kvadrat



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In 2009, Kvadrat CEO, Anders Byriel, commissioned Roman Signer to create site-specific artwork using Kvadrat textiles.

In May 2009, the Swiss artist visited Ebeltoft, the home of the Kvadrat HQ in Denmark, to build and execute two meticulously planned "time sculptures", entitled 'Tuch' and 'Bogen'.

Captivated by the natural beauty of the local beach, he chose it to be the location for 'Tuch' and 'Bogen'. He also decided to use the Kvadrat fabric *Air 4* for both installations, in a rich red colour, to contrast strongly with the sky.

'Tuch', described by the artist as a "*Free hanging theatre curtain that covers the landscape for a moment*", involved shooting a 4x6m length of fabric straight up into the sky. This was achieved with blasting caps, which were placed in cans attached to the fabric by string. Before ignition, the cans were placed in buckets of water to focus the force of the thrust directly upwards.

For 'Bogen', a length of 1x100m fabric was attached to a large rocket – made from smaller rockets bundled together – and placed in a wooden chest, to ensure it unfolded properly as it was pulled out. The rocket was then ignited, pulling the textile across the sky in an arch-like trajectory to create a 'red rainbow'. This was described by the artist as a "*...red bow that momentarily holds its shape and fills the sky, before floating to the ground.*"

Both video installations will be exhibited at ARoS Aarhus Museum of Modern Art, Denmark from January 2010.

About the artist

Roman Signer's distinctive work involves setting up and recording a variety of different acts, which includes collisions, explosions and the launching of an assortment of different objects.

A key theme that underpins his work is the idea of cause and effect. Science and art collide in his "time-sculptures" as he investigates the effect of physical forces on a variety of objects at given moments in time.

Whether firing a Magnum from a vibrating belt machine or using a firework to rip a hat from his face, Roman Signer's work delivers extraordinary aesthetic results, and stands out as ingenious, irreverent and irresistibly crazy.

Kvadrat art projects

Kvadrat continuously pushes the boundaries of textiles and their uses, actively engaging in projects with artists, museums, galleries and designers. The artist or designer is given complete freedom to do whatever he or she wants, as long as the project involves textiles and investigates their usage.

Other Kvadrat art projects include

Aamu Song at Louisiana, Humlebæk (2005), Rosemarie Trockel at the Museum Ludwig in Cologne (2006), Olafur Eliasson and Kjetil Thorsen at the Serpentine Gallery (2007), Liam Gillick at the Whitechapel Gallery, London (2009) and Thomas Demand at Neues Nationalgalerie, Berlin (2009).