

Karin Trenkel – Silence in East Germany

6 February – 19 March 2009

Private View 5 February, 6-9pm



Stau 2008

2 x 3 m, hand-painted paper installation

The KESTER+BLES gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of hand-painted paper collages, including a site-specific paper installation, by the German artist Karin Trenkel. This will be Trenkel's first solo show in the UK.

Over the past few years, Trenkel's fascination for man-made domestic and suburban settings has shifted to an interest in the natural environment. Having travelled Route 66, Trenkel has constructed landscape collages using ready-made DIY materials, emphasising America's attempt to master its vast landscapes. More recently, she has turned to the rural landscape of her birthplace, creating collages out of cut and torn paper in muted colours.

Trenkel's 2- and 3-dimensional landscapes are created in the same way that we might go about giving form to our own environment. The works explore the boundaries between the physical experience of sculpture and the more detached perception of painting. Trenkel's previous large-scale paper collages were placed inside rooms and were reminiscent of stage designs. Her more recent collages by contrast, are much flatter, and are mainly displayed on walls, blending into a painterly whole.

Trenkel (1966) was born in Germany and has lived and worked in The Netherlands since 1989. She has exhibited extensively in The Netherlands and has had solo shows in Germany and Canada. Trenkel teaches Fine Art and organises art lectures, exhibitions and projects. She is also an active Rotterdam Art Foundation member and is involved in local art and culture programming.

KESTER+BLES is a contemporary art gallery that opened in Notting Hill, London, in September 2008. The gallery was founded by Lieke Kester and Eelke Jan Bles, who are both Dutch. KESTER+BLES shows work by emerging artists from Northern Europe, particularly those based in the UK and the Netherlands.

For further information and high resolution images, please visit our website: www.kesterbles.com or contact Lieke Kester on: lieke@kesterbles.com, +44 (0)20 7229 0949 or +44 (0)7809 516 438.

Visiting address: 53 Pembridge Road, Notting Hill Gate, London W11 3HG, UK

Opening hours: Mon to Fri from 10.30 to 6 and Sat from 12 to 5 during exhibitions, or by appointment