

Ramon Iten

Selected Works

2021-2024

Artist Statement

„I am my own boss, so why should I want to work less?„
With contradictions and self-experiments I am trying myself on topics such as productivity, work and the valuation and perception of time. At the same time, I am concerned with leisure, in an environment that sees recreation and rest merely as a means to an end. I often devote myself to laborious tasks that bear fruit beyond traditional measures of productivity.

At the Core of my Practice, I want to challenge the notion that the value of our existence is determined solely by our achievements.

Dearest Visitors

I hope this letter finds you well. I would like to extend my sincerest apologies for the absence of a new work to showcase during this exhibition. As an artist, I understand the anticipation and excitement that accompanies the unveiling of fresh creations, and it pains me to admit that I have fallen short of your expectations.

Creating art is a deeply personal and sometimes unpredictable journey, and regrettably, I have encountered unforeseen challenges that have temporarily stalled my production of artworks. I want to assure you that this setback has not been taken lightly, and I am truly sorry for any disappointment it may have caused.

I am grateful for the support and enthusiasm you have consistently shown. Your patience and understanding during this time mean the world to me and are not taken for granted.

I want to be transparent with you about the situation and assure you that I am actively working on my art. While I may not have a new piece to present at this moment, I am fully committed to producing meaningful and inspiring work that lives up to the standards you deserve.

Apology Letter to The Visitor, 2023
9 A4 Pages

An Apology for not having a work to show.

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Thank you for your continued belief in my ability. I am genuinely grateful for your understanding and kind phrases that bring me comfort and joy in the most difficult of times.

So that you may understand the circumstances that have led to this inconvenience, I would like to elaborate some details.

An artistic practice cannot exist in a vacuum or detached from the world. Inevitably, an unforeseen situation adds to the large and intricate web of obligations that we carry in our lives. Of course, we can influence what kind of obligations we take on, but as an artist, that often means we have a more complex web of obligations, trying to find ways to maintain it.

When you suddenly find yourself in a tight spot and you don't know where to turn, it can be a bit of a struggle. You do know what the right course is, but the more you think about it, the more you realize that you might not be able to decide on a direction.

The creative process is a long and winding road. It is a path that has been walked many times, but it is not a straight line. At times, you might feel like you are doing things that are not yours, and then you realize you are not.

Writers High, 2023
Endurance-Performance,
Table, Speakers, Paper, Pen
Size variable

In a punishment task, I copy the contradictory mantra „I must learn to be lazy“ several times, synchronizing my handwriting with a prerecorded audiotrack of my writing. As I struggle to keep up with the rhythm of the recorded soundtrack, my attention becomes increasingly fixated on keeping up with the cadence of the sentence rather than its actual semantic content. As my hand becomes more fatigued and I am preoccupied with the rhythm, the legibility of my handwriting decreases more and more.





Anitdote to the Rhetoric of Growth, 2023

Wood, Steel

21cm x 43cm x 35cm

An object, once full of potential is bent under laborious work and great pressure, rendering it useless and robbing it of its initial power.



Full Time, 2022
Threadmill, Computermouses
Size variable

How odd it is to be fine with resting for the act of resting and not
to do it to be energized for further work.



Full Time, 2022
Threadmill, Computermouses
Size variable



Timepiece/ Abendrot am Fählensee, 2021

Oil on Aluminum

45cm x 45cm

The effort and production behind a work often seem to get more attention than the idea on which it is built. *Timepiece / Abendrot am Fählensee* is a painting in which the only thing visible is how much time was invested in it before covering it with white paint.

Groupshows

2024 *How Language Flows*, Galerie Kunst und Buch, Zurich

2023 *Winter Auction*, ZHdK, Zurich

2023 *Wonky and Skewed*, NEST, Zurich

2023 *Is the artmarket in the room with us right now?*, ZHdK, Zurich

2023 *Birds are Nesting in the ashtray*, ZHdK, Zurich

2022 *RAUSCH*, Zentralwäscherei, Zurich

2022 *1-2 Werkstage*, ZHdK, Zurich

2021 *2m Abstand*, ZHdK, Zurich

2020 *MoMo+RAMON*, Atelier Super250, Zurich

Education

2021 -2024, Bachelor Fine Arts, ZHdK, Zurich

2011 -2014, Carpenter EFZ, Zurich

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