

CONCEPT

308 Views (Rhododendron Garden/ 32 Views, Black Locust/ 44 Views, Birch/ 50 Views, Olive Tree/ 41 Views, Laburnum/ 41 Views, Blood Plum/ 50 Views, Ginkgo/ 50 Views, : x batches; countup; countdown; wind direction; wind force; declination direction of rotation; declination rotation speed), 2011



Jorinde Voigt
Berlin, May 2011
each 283 x 124 cm
each 292 x 133 cm (framed)
installation in total 292 x 961 cm (framed)
colored Velin- & Ingrespaper, pencil, ink on water color paper
unique
signed

In her latest work *308 Views*, Jorinde Voigt combines collage technique for the first time with methods of notation. She layers intricate line patterns and abstract patches of coloured paper in the seven large-format drawings, deriving the contours of the collaged colour areas from silhouettes of various observed trees.

Shape and Colour

Each colour patch represents a moment observed by the artist. While her first gaze from a distance provides a rough outline of the shape of the tree, Voigt approaches the structure of the plant with each further glance. The colour patches decrease in size, intersecting and overlapping each other. Collaged are 32-50 possible views per sheet. Using a colour chart, Voigt measures corresponding numbers for the colours of the leaves, flowers, stems, etc. The colour values vary depending on distance and lighting conditions, revealing a range of natural colours such as olive green, golden yellow or blood red.

Movement

Voigt supplements her nearly mimetic representation with fictitious spatial and temporal data. The arrows and numbers of her notation indicate wind direction and wind speed and seemingly pervade the representation of the observed tree. In addition, her indication of rotation speed and direction set the drawing to an imaginary circular motion. Voigt also marks each translated glance as 'countup' and 'countdown', so that the visual process can be traced.

Rhythm

The frequent zooming in on an object results in an almost musical kind of immersion. Colours and shapes are varied and repeated by Voigt a total of 308 times, to the effect that characteristics of the observed object are filtered out. With this approach Voigt is referring to the work *100 Views of Mount Fuji*, a collection of Japanese painting tradition showing 100 different views of Mount Fuji.

Perception

Voigt's exact study of the various tree genera corresponds to the underlying idea of her work of understanding reality in terms of microcosm. It is all the more astonishing that the organic coloured areas remain highly abstract and far removed from specific description. The drawings rather appear as a model or construct for the study of human perception and general questions about language, cognition, intuition and association are raised.

Voigt has concerned herself with studies of perception already in *Botanic Code* (2009/2010). She identified colours of various plants from botanical gardens and had the corresponding colour values painted on aluminium rods. Aspects of the plant's shape, however, were left out completely. The involvement of both components was not indicated before the ensuing drawings *Superdestination* (2010). In these preliminary studies, simple lines of colour depict the silhouettes of the considered objects. In *308 Views*, Voigt has found a system which includes shape and colour simultaneously.