

Slavko Kacunko: Marcel Odenbach. Concept, Performance, Video. Installation from 1975 to 1998. Marcel Odenbach as a Modell of an artistic development associated with the medium video and his role and importance for the integration of the time-related artforms in the art-historical context(s) [Chorus-Verlag für Kunst und Wissenschaft, Munich and Mainz 1999]

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- *Excerpt from the press-release DRUPA 2000 – PM No. 27 / May 2000*

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Editor's Foreword

Slavko Kačunko's dissertation represents the first monograph on one German video artist. In view of the utter rarity of examinations of this kind, an aim has consisted in elucidating a series of fundamental standpoints. Among them was the attempt to make the methods of art history productive for the medium of video, without neglecting the aspect of media aesthetics. This was the only way that would enable the author to take a third route, between the traditional art-historical approach on the one hand and the approaches of media theorists on the other, and to set as an absolute precondition the analysis of the individual work. To have documented in such cogent – and comprehensive – a manner the significance of the video artist Marcel Odenbach and what sets his oeuvre apart, is in itself a considerable feat. But the insights so gained go beyond his oeuvre and lay the foundations for a future, sound art-historical practice in dealing with video or media art in general. Therefore this book deserves recognition as a pioneering contribution to an art history of video art.

Excerpt from the press-release DRUPA 2000 – PM No. 27 / May 2000

„Art history pioneer achievement in the field of video art. The 36-year old Duesseldorfer gained the award for his dissertation on „Marcel Odenbach. Concept, Performance, Video. Installation from 1975 to 1998“ ... Dr. Kacunko's thesis has wider parameters than its title may perhaps suggest. It not only explores Marcel Odenbach's creative output but structures the framework of video art in Germany and sets it in the context of art history, from its advent in 1970s to the present day. Albrecht Bolza-Schünemann welcomed this choice of topic: „In essence, Dr. Kacunko tackles an issue that has riveted the printing and media industry for years: how to deal with new media and make the most of their creative and technological potential.“ By examining Marcel Odenbach's works, Dr. Kacunko illustrates the vast creative sweep of video art, considering its cognitive, technical and aesthetic aspects.“

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