

STEVE VAN DEN BOSCH

Quote Unquote

September 9 – October 22, 2011

Quote unquote. An expression usually announcing a quotation which, in this case, remains blank. Like a line that awaits a sentence and speculates on its potential punctuation and intensity. There is an urgency in what is blank that can only borrow an appearance to be temporarily represented. The procedures through which it can appear not only allow retracing but equally constructing its origin. The announcement is made only to stage its own erasure. The work of Steve Van den Bosch (Antwerp, 1975) focusses on the implications of art practice. Not confined to any specific medium he researches the parameters that define (a) work. Van den Bosch dismantles these parameters in order to disrupt and re-use them in aberrant forms that end up questioning their own status. The works presented here particularly revolve around notions of speculation and chronology, as well as deliberate misuse or misreading. *Untitled (Canon)*, 2011 for example, appears to be the most traditional looking work as far as the medium of painting is concerned. A widely known logo that stands for registration, reproduction and distribution (and as such, invisible studio production) is mechanically painted in oil paint and does not hide the stains made during the process of meticulous rendering. Although pictorial at first sight, it's the idea of reproduction gradually replacing original work that is stretched to the point of absurdity. Being perhaps the most subtly present work in this exhibition, *Someone you've never seen before*, 2011 announces and appropriates a moment which, although it is an everyday occurrence, remains unverifiable. It continuously anticipates a potential 'new image' that is entirely dependent on each individual viewer's mental archive. Moreover, this work can be read as a paradoxal countering of the announcement of the exhibition itself, unquoting what was already there to be seen.