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RICCARDO PREVIDI

There's Something Very Important I Forgot to Tell You

Opening Thursday May 21st at 7pm

Until July 25th 2009

Egon: There's something very important I forgot to tell you.

Peter: What?

Egon: Don't cross the streams.

Peter: Why?

Egon: It would be bad.

Peter: I'm fuzzy on the whole good/bad thing. What do you mean, "bad?"

Egon: Try to imagine all life as you know it stopping instantaneously and every molecule in your body exploding at the speed of light.

Ray: Total protonic reversal.

Peter: Right. That's bad. Okay. All right. Important safety tip. Thanks, Egon.

In Ivan Reitman's popular film *Ghostbusters* (1984), Dr. Egon Spengler warns his companions of the risks they are taking wearing three unauthorized nuclear accelerators on their shoulders. The protonic streams released by the packs can, if crossed, bring on total destruction. From this brief exchange emerge some of the recurrent themes of Riccardo Previdi's work. The incapacity of discerning between the "good" and the "bad" (or simply not wanting to), the visionary use of technology (not without a reflection on the dangers that this could bring with it), playfulness and irony.

For his second collaboration with Francesca Minini, Riccardo Previdi reduces the exhibition space by 50%. He closes the room facing the courtyard and obtains a single, more compact space in which he is presenting three new groups of work.

T, 2009, the main part of the exhibition consists of a series of panels differing in material and size, installed on the walls. The shapes and the standard dimensions of the panels, and moreover construction materials readily available in stores, act as a starting point. The images reproduced are of atomic tests, mushroom clouds, Hiroshima and Nagasaki razed to the ground, and origami grape clusters conserved in the Peace Memorial Museum designed by Kenzo Tange. Superimposition a pattern, for example the parallel lines made by the packaging tape, just as sectioning off of the panel into three sectors, rendering the starting image practically unrecognizable. The "picture" as if cut up by a razor-sharp katana, is transformed into a reduced version tangram, the tiles get mixed up, the image disappears and with it history as well.

Test, 2009, is a series of diagrams and standard tables for printer calibration. The images, found on the internet, are printed on A4-formated paper, crunched up and then photographed. The result is then reproduced, with a plotter laser, on multi-layered fir panels.

Egon, 2009; *Peter*, 2009; *Ray*, 2009; *Winston*, 2009, are three plus one. They are streams that do not cross (but that could!). They are ropes that fall vertically from the ceiling. As if left by a fugitive, they open up a possible escape route. They are the only three-dimensional element on display, a further interference with the reading of the image but also a way to measure the space. *Egon*, *Peter*, *Ray*, *Winston*, are the Ghostbusters, who at the end, in order to destroy the most powerful ghost, Gozer the Gozerian, must cross the streams, thus breaking the only, most important, unbreakable rule. The most important. But on the other hand we know that the only way not to die of poisoning is to take small doses of poison every day.

Only in this way can we hope to save ourselves... or not?

Open Tuesday through Saturday from 11.00 am to 7.30 pm