

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Exhibition: RETO BOLLER: »Hanglage«**

**Opening: Thursday, 18 November 2010, 6–9 pm**

**Exhibition: 18 November 2010–29 January 2011**

**Tuesday–Friday, 11 am–6 pm, Saturday 11 am–2 pm  
and on appointment**

The exhibition »Hanglage« (literally: »Sloped«) at Häusler Contemporary is the first presentation in Munich of work by the Swiss artist Reto Boller (\*1966, Zurich). Based on his understanding of the image support as a sculptural element on the surface of the wall, Boller, whom the art critic Markus Stegmann has termed »an inventor working at the outer confines of painting«, conceives work at the crossroads of painting and sculpture. One of the most interesting Swiss artists of his generation, he has been treading new paths in the development of three-dimensional conceptual painting ever since the 1990s.

Boller confronts traditional painting with typical modern industrial materials such as wood, plastic, steel pipes and metal sheets or, more recently, crash helmets and other functional objects. In the course of the creative process these materials develop organically into a formal language cast between abstraction and figuration – a world in which the boundaries between surface and space slowly dissolve, opening up a complex space of tension between surface and reflection.

The exhibition at Häusler Contemporary presents a total installation with recent work in which the natural textures and colours of the material gain particular meaning, while the interaction between the apparent functionality of materials such as carrying belts or screw clamps and their new, object-related function takes centre stage. The strong physical presence of Boller's works derives precisely from those raw, seemingly intuitive gestures and their supposed incompleteness. »The scratches are traces of the jigsaw, the unpolished edges are the result of skipping an otherwise common step in the work process, the torn-off pieces of foil have been kept in place because I discovered the quality of the trace... I want to loose myself in the process and simultaneously gain distance; through this contradiction, I gradually approach that which I do not know yet.« (Reto Boller)

Reto Boller studied painting at the Academy of Design and Art in Zurich and the Academy of Arts Arnhem. Since 2007 he has been a professor at the Stuttgart State Academy of Art and Design. His paintings and sculptures have been shown in solo and group exhibitions worldwide and have won numerous awards and prizes.

For more information or images, please contact Hanna Kaiser at [hk@haeusler-contemporary.com](mailto:hk@haeusler-contemporary.com).

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