

Karin Lorentzen

Cultivator

Opening: Friday January 15th from 5 to 8 p.m.
January 16th through February 6th 2010.
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 12 to 5 p.m.

Hundreds of flowers cover the floor and ceiling in Karin Lorentzen's installation *Cultivator*, depicting Man's desire to control nature and the loss he must consequently suffer.

I have filled the flowers with plaster and then torn off the petals and the stamen. The living flower has been changed into a sculptural shape, perpetuated by the plaster.

The casts are glued to the ceiling whereas the floor is covered by the remains from the process - explains Karin Lorentzen who with this one simple gesture has created an installation full of sensual enjoyment which activates our physical presence in the space.

The desire to fight against and to control nature throughout our history has made us cultivate it in order to gain control over it. Casting these flowers into plaster is such an action. Unlike in traditional stucco ceilings these flowers do not open toward the audience. The openings of the flowers in *Cultivator* are facing the ceiling, and their innermost spaces have been filled with plaster and have become these cuspidal shapes that are pointing down at the audience.

The installation takes place between floor and ceiling, and as we lift our heads to look at the flowers in the ceiling, our feet are in trampling on a crackling bed of withered petals and plaster, reminding us of a forest floor – and of our own mortality.

Karin Lorentzen (born 1968) graduated from The Royal Danish Art Academy in 2002. Before beginning her studies at the Royal Academy she received training in the more classical sculpture disciplines in Paris. In 2006 she was awarded the *3 Year Scholarship* by The Danish Arts Foundation. The exhibition *Cultivator* has also received financial support from a committee under The Danish Arts Foundation.

Sincerely

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