

ANDERS HOLEN

'Doom Loop', 2019
DAMA, Turin

The works on display is a selection from Holen's latest project entitled 'Doom Loop'. The term "doom loop" refers to a sequence of events where the outcome is negative, expansive, and repetitive. Within the finance industry this concept is used to explain the mutual dependency between the state and the banking sector, whereby the banks finance the state through obligations and the state provides guarantees for the banks if they are threatened with insolvency. 'Too big to fail' was the mantra of the last financial crisis. The consequences become so momentous and unassailable that the fate of the finance industry inevitably turns into a responsibility of society. The scope and absolute presence of the economic system seems almost nature-given and becomes inherent as such in humanity. It is said that it's easier for us to imagine the end of the world than a world without capitalism.

Object agency and how objects affect one another form the basis of Holen's artistic practice. The interconnectivity between various doom loops - from nature given to the culturally produced - is a recurring theme in his latest research.

In the courtyard of Dama a frieze-like constellation of porcelain, glass, and bronze constitutes the series of sculptures entitled 'Mergency Frieze'. By studying various connections in nature, Holen has examined what happens when one of the links in a chain vanishes. In a food chain such as fly – frog – hawk, for example, there will be a period of time when the fly still exists in the hawk, despite the extinction of the frog. Because evolution needs time to work, the mix of atoms between fly and hawk is maintained for a certain period after the chain has been broken. The sculpture series consists of fragments taken from the remaining links of such a chain.

On the upper staircase a series of drawings depicts exploded views of various objects. Things and symbols are taken apart and shown in a sort of holistic limbo. The importance of understanding how and of what things are put together, and questions concerning what constitutes a whole are themes of interest in the works of Holen.

Biography

Anders Holen (b. 1986) lives and works in Oslo. He graduated from the Oslo National Academy of the Arts and works within sculpture and installation. His works have been shown in institutions such as Astrup Fearnley Museet Oslo, Kristiansand Kunsthall, Giorgio Galotti gallery, the Vigeland Museum during the 9th Sculpture Biennale, Entrée Bergen, Contemporary Art Centre Vilnius, Kunsthall Oslo, Helper Projects New York. The artist is represented by Giorgio Galotti gallery in Turin.