

**STANDARD (OSLO)  
PRESS RELEASE**

-----

**DAVID LIESKE**

**"THEN IT BEGAN TO FLOW OUT OF ME AND IN THE COURSE OF THREE EVENINGS THE THING WAS WRITTEN. AS SOON AS I TOOK UP THE PEN, THE WHOLE GHOSTLY ASSEMBLAGE EVAPORATED. THE ROOM QUIETENED AND THE ATMOSPHERE CLEARED. THE HAUNTING WAS OVER."**

**14.12.2006-21.01.2007 / PREVIEW: 14.12.2006 / 19.00-21.00 /**

-----

**STANDARD (OSLO) is pleased to announce its first solo exhibition of the German conceptual artist David Lieske.**

**Employing a phrase from the autobiography "Memoires, Dreams and Reflections" of Carl Gustav Jung as his title, Lieske brings into play questions of representation, conditions of production and reproduction, authorship, epiphany and the paradox and awkward disposition of a post conceptual art practice of himself and his generation in general. At the centre of this discussion is Jung's brief text from his very early writings called "Septem Sermones ad Mortuos" ["The Seven Sermons To The Dead"] (1912).**

**Proposing the english translation - published in 1925 by stuart & watkins - in four different states of reproduction, Lieske ends up reflecting upon the inadequacy of the exhibition format and the problematical structure of "inspiration" and its possible translation into forms of collective availability.**

"The dead came back from Jerusalem, where they found not what they sought. They prayed me let them in and sought my word, and thus I began my teaching." With these words the former psychoanalyst Carl G. Jung introduces the book "Septem Sermones ad Mortuos".

Written in 1912, the book was never published – only privately printed ("for mr. Jung's own use") and only distributed to a selected group of friends.

Taking its point of departure from the ancient thinker and teacher Basileides –

who thought in the city of Alexandria in the first century – Jung enters a discussion on ontology, the philosophy of being. Using Basileides' voice as a Gnostic philosopher he advocates the need to connect with the transcendent, not through belief alone, but through a deeper experience of the invisible world that underlies the physical one. The universality of dr. Jung's remarks seem impressive and adolescent at the same time.

Jung's discussion of being inevitably also relates to questions of translation into form within contemporary art practice. More than so, the work method employed by Jung is decisive for the artist's method for the exhibition. As indicated in the title the idea was quickly transformed into form - out of a state of confusion - and then quickly published for a pre-selected audience without necessarily knowing its relevance. Equally unsure, Lieske's works seem to reflect upon their own status of being second remote to the actual product – the book, and thereby reflecting on the problematical administration of questionable modern comforts. A bronze cast of the book is lying on the floor next to a plinth displaying ektachrome reproductions of every single page of the book. The inadequacy from these objects reminds one of the collapses of an artistic approach to control complex systems of references and layered contents as well as the problems of mediating those. Even when the text is read aloud by german indie-rock star and art critic Dirk von Lowtzow, in a sound piece, it remains opaque. The paradox is that the photograph in the same space – depicting the artists reading the book – leaves the viewer equally involved and informed. While the sound piece almost emblematically portrays how an intelligent atmosphere can be gained, its loyalty to information also provides a blocked barrier.

David Lieske (b. 19179), lives and works in Berlin. His most recent exhibitions include a solo exhibition at Galerie Daniel Buccholz, as well as "Spiralen der Erinnerung" at Kunstverein Hamburg, Hamburg; "Galerie Daniel Buchholz, Köln, at Metro Pictures" at Metro Pictures, New York; and "Don Quijote" at Witte de With, Rotterdam.

*For further information please visit our webpage: [www.standardoslo.no](http://www.standardoslo.no) or contact Eivind Furnesvik at [eivind@standardoslo.no](mailto:eivind@standardoslo.no) or +47 917 07 429 / +47 22 60 13 10. STANDARD (OSLO) is open Tuesday-Friday: 12.00-17.00 / Saturday-Sunday: 12.00-16.00.*

*Upcoming projects: Torbjørn Rødland: "More Whenever Minutes"  
25.01.-25.02.2007*

-----

**STANDARD (OSLO) / Hegdehaugsveien 3 / +47 22 60 13 10**

**/ info@standardoslo.no**

**/ N-0352 Oslo / +47 22 60 13 11 / www.standardoslo.no**