••••••••••••A few notes on the work of Beate Engl••••••••••••

Creating and defining new spaces through her installations in the surrounding of an art context is a main theme in the work of Beate Engl. The observer has to enter an installation and is forced to a different situation of privacy in a public area. He is directly confronted with an art piece and has to use it instead of being a passive visitor. On a kind of stage or platform he is invited to act, to experience, whereas the outstanding observers see the complete installation containing the user and the sculpture.
The installations usually are created on the borderline between reality and fiction. Related to everyday objects the art pieces influence the user's perception by physical irritations such as vibrations, turns, reflections. Sitting on a turning sofa ("Merry-go-round"), lying on a massage-bed ("Allegro non troppo"), entering a vibrating phone box ("Vibration") changes the relationship to the real surrounding.
Illusionary scenes and utopian spaces are created. An art piece can realize everything we desire and imagine based on and influenced by memory, dreams, movies and fiction stories ("Vacuumflowers", "Parasite" and "Space is the place").
At the same time this imaginary space offers different forms of communication. Being isolated or together with several users, the observer is part of a non-verbal dialogue with the art piece ("Bildbetrachtung") and/or the other participants ("Picknickdecke").
The group project "Galerie Goldankauf / Café Helga" shares this idea of art as a communication platform. Moreover it deals with the idea of art as a service.

Anja Casser, Art historian
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