

# GALERIE ANDREA CARATSCH

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Olivier Mosset – Ten Monochromes**

27 October – 26 November 2007

Ten monochromes by Olivier Mosset, painted between 2003 and 2006, will be on display at the Galerie Andrea Caratsch from 27 October to 26 November 2007.

Olivier Mosset's work originally developed through a series of shows held between 1966 and 1967 in partnership with Daniel Buren, Michel Parmentier and Niele Toroni, who were known collectively as B.M.P.T. Limiting themselves to the strict repetition of a theme chosen at random (a black circle with a diameter of 9 cm for Mosset), the four artists set out to strip their paintings of any artistic message or personal investment. Although this "materialist" approach made a significant impact in the 60s and 70s, the group soon grew apart, with each artist holding differing views on how best to manage the "common minimum programme". In the 1970s, having left Paris for New York, Mosset reverted to the use of monochrome, which he adopted as a "praxis", or practice, then, very freely, he incorporated composition (using "found" themes or *shaped-canvases*), advancing as far as to interact with space by means of elementary shapes. Thus art critics gradually associated him with the school of "Radical Painting" (Marcia Hafif or Joseph Marioni, for example) and "Appropriationism" (Sherrie Levine or John Armleder). Olivier Mosset, who now lives between Tucson (Arizona) and Neuchâtel (Switzerland), still adheres to a sort of pictorial "truth" (as Cézanne called it), but one that is based on the material qualities of the work in question (size, format, stretcher type, colour, application, etc.). Here, eight square-shaped canvases offering as many variations on red, offset against two identically dimensioned green paintings, bear witness to the "critical materialism" which the artist has practised for almost forty years, a form of specifically abstract (objective) and pictorial resistance to the assimilation of art in the culture industry.

The gallery is open from Monday to Friday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.