

FRIDERICIANUM

Press Release

Farhad Fozouni

Aftershock Poetry

06.09.2014 – 02.11.2014

05.09.2014, 11 h Press Conference

05.09.2014, 18 – 21 h Opening

Farhad Fozouni writes aftershock poetry in words, images, sculpture, light and sound. Drawing on Persian traditions, such as miniatures, calligraphy and arts&crafts, he liberates these from their role as vehicles of prior meanings. Here, the shapes, fonts and materials become significant as such. Instead of illustrating wisdom and truths, they engender current emotional states. This is the case, for example, in the series entitled *Aftershock Poetry* (2009): Digital drawings present surreal apparatuses operated by a male figure with blood-red liquid. Text boxes in the apparatuses attest to their brutality and the male figure's emotions, which are specified in the footnotes beneath the drawings. The sculptures of the *Blades Poetry* series (2009) meld Farsi-Arabic vocalization signs with architectural shapes to form sharp-edged ornaments on small wooden blocks. In his *Rain-Fear Poetry* installation (2014) specially made for the exhibition, Fozouni transposes calligraphy into three dimensions and has letters rain down from the ceiling.

Fozouni's works are a matrix of ambivalent feelings, poetically protesting against the capitalism of signs. His pieces embody moments of shock, which we sense without being able to grasp them. In Farhad Fozouni's (born 1978) first institutional solo show emotional conglomerates made up of fear, love, pain and longing populate the Fridericianum tower.

Curated by Nina Tabassomi

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