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Store Kongensgade 3, back building
DK 1264 Copenhagen K

PRESS RELEASE:

IB BRAASE
FORM IS REACHED PROGRESSIVELY, LIKE WHEN YOU SPEAK.

Opening: Friday the 26th of June from 5 to 8 pm.
June 27th through Juli 25th '09.
Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 12 to 5 pm.

In light of the recent death, in March this year, of the Danish sculptor Ib Braase, The Sculptury has chosen not to close during the summer, but instead commemorate Ib Braase by exhibiting a selection of his work. Most of the pieces in the exhibition have not been shown since the seventies.

Ib Braase's works are remarkable in a Danish - indeed in any - context. But the main reason why we have found it important to hold this exhibition is that Braase's work is an essential precondition for contemporary sculptural work.

The title of the exhibition is a quote from an interview Braase gave in 1986 for the book *Sculptural Points of View* (DK: *Skulpturelle Synspunkter*). In the same interview he says:

More and more I have sought a sculpture that is a space. Not a statue but a space. A mental place that you can occupy. It is a place, a location, a blank spot, that I am trying to fill.

Braase's reconfiguration of sculpture from closed statue to open space precedes the development that sculpture as such underwent - toward what has been called *Sculpture in an Expanded Field*.

A number of things normally considered mutually exclusive are no longer so in the works of Ib Braase:

- The formal and structural aspects of sculpture do not exclude directly addressing the viewer and the surrounding world.
- The open and process-based approach does not exclude the condensation into works.

- The fact that sculpture is essentially a silent medium that expresses what language can not express, does not prevent Braase from using text and poetry alongside the other elements in his works.

Braase's work is essential to understanding that the expansion of the sculptural field was not a discontinuation of the sculptural work that came before it, but rather that it was necessary in order to be able to continue.

We hope that this exhibition will also remind others of the continuous relevance of these sculptures.

In 2005 the sculptors Torben Kapper and Martin Erik Andersen arranged a retrospective exhibition of Braase's work at Den Frie Udstillingsbygning, Copenhagen, and published a thorough biography of his work. During the exhibition this book will be on sale at The Sculptury at an unreasonably low price.

Sincerely
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For further information and/or press photos please contact:
Anders Bonnesen andersbonnesen@gmail.com phone #: (+45) 60 66
53 38
Heine Klausen Mail: heineherning@hotmail.com Tlf.: 22 66 01 81