

FUGAX

15. January 2015 - 28. February 2015



Foreword

I became acquainted with Gun Gordillo, when I was living in Paris for 20 years and daily passed the Galerie Denise René in St. Germain des Près. Every time I walked by, Gordillo's stringent lighting installations caught my eye. The works were spot on, modern, inspirational, present, simple and elegant and they still are.

Gun Gordillo breaks with conventions; she paints with white and draws with light in a very special spatial form, which is why she has been a recognized name on the international art scene over several decades.

The renowned art dealer Ernst Beyler, who along with Denise René, among others, founded the contemporary Modern Art mecca, Art Basel, has exhibited Gun Gordillo as one of the few Danish / Swedish artists and Gordillo's art has thus been shown in Basel from the beginning. That one of her enormous and monumental works hangs in Jacob Burckhardt Haus in the city therefore seems entirely natural. It was installed there in 2004 and even though it takes up space and makes a big impression, its expression is efemert, which is characteristic of large parts of Gordillo's oeuvre. What is special about Gun Gordillo's Art is that the volatile and changeable is paused and maintained.

- Banja Rathnov

Notes on Gun Gordillo's art

There is something rebellious about Gun Gordillo and her art, an almost provocative insistence on challenging and testing the same material again and again.

This has been true from the very beginning. In 1969 Gordillo applied for the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen with her all-white paintings in a time when most were engaged in working with earth tones. Professor Richard Mortensen took Gordillo under his wing, but soon wanted to throw her out again when Gordillo refused to put up with Mortensen's authoritarian teaching. Later Søren Hjorth Nielsen became her professor, but it was only when Gunnar Aagaard Andersen became her teacher at the Academy that Gordillo found her mentor.

The time at the Academy started a long series of experiments with materials and transparency, which were to bring the neon light in as Gordillo's preferred mode of expression. The ability to work with this difficult medium, that today appears so easy and natural in Gordillo's works, is inspired by the artist's long and playful exploration of the material.

Gordillo has now worked with neon light as her primary material for more than 40 years. With great curiosity and persistence, she has constantly sought new ways to transform the conventional neon light in our everyday lives into an image-making tool of poetic and almost metaphysical character. Gun Gordillo's works never stand still. She works with the lightness and volatility of light in contrast with other materials, so that her work becomes tension fields alternating between movement and stillness, absence and presence, the visible and the invisible, fragility and weight. The works constantly challenge their own statics, and are thus always on their way to somewhere else.

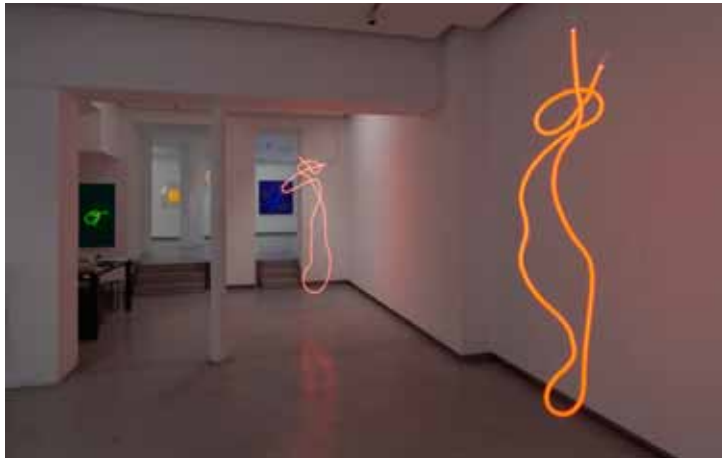


gun gordillo, 1974

Hereby Gun Gordillo is in many ways in debt to the kinetic art experiments with movement and light in the 1950s, and she has also known several of its pioneers through her long association with the legendary French Galerie Denise René. The gallery was behind the groundbreaking group exhibition *Le Mouvement* in 1955, which exhibited artists who dealt with the new kinetic art for the first time. At the same time Gordillo shared with many of the gallery's artists a non-figurative expression, seemingly constructivistic in its base, but with something indefinable always happening, a volatility or a change.



freddy fraek, denise rené



"ENTRELACS"
galerie denise rené 2010



HK building, copenhagen

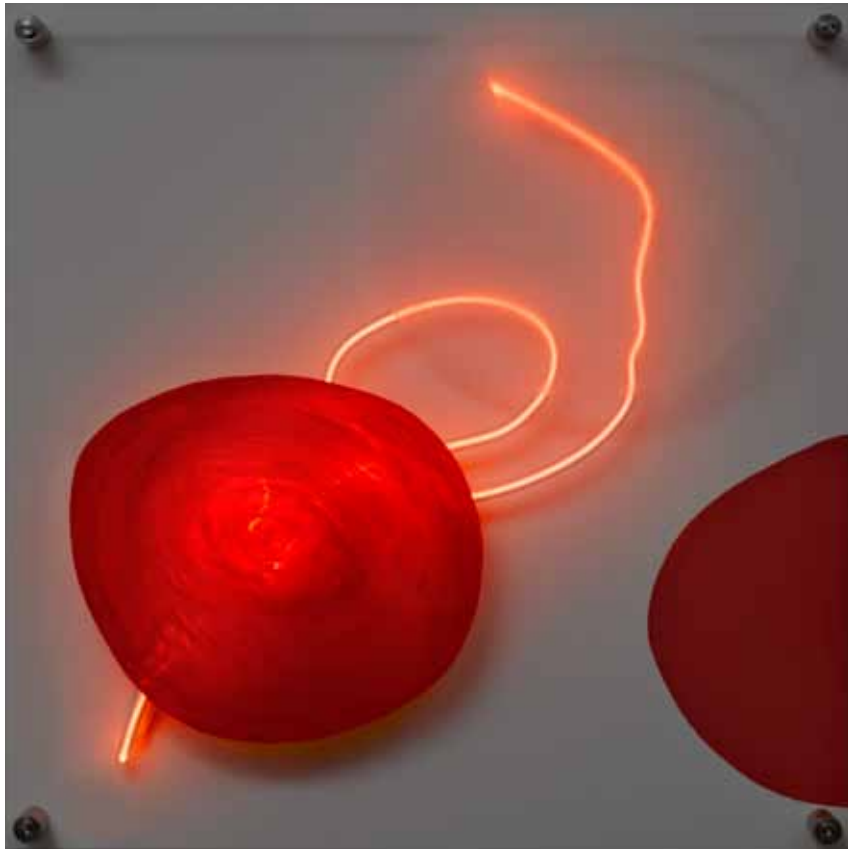
This legacy of constructivist and kinetic art was apparently seen by Denise René when she first saw Gun Gordillo's works at Gallery Leger in Malmö in 1984. Denise René then invited Gordillo in as the youngest member and one of the few women in the international circle of artists around the renowned gallery in Paris. It was the beginning of a lifelong friendship and collaboration with Denise René, who in Gordillo saw a kinship with the gallery's other artists, but also saw an artist who was completely her own.

The Swedish art critic Ingela Lind has previously described the unique characteristics, which she believes sets Gun Gordillo apart from the many other artists who use neon lights in their works today. Where artists like James Turrell work with a light that is much more complete and that affects the whole condition of the room, Gordillo's light, on the contrary, is weightless and floating and fluctuates with its surroundings and the coming and going of the daylight.

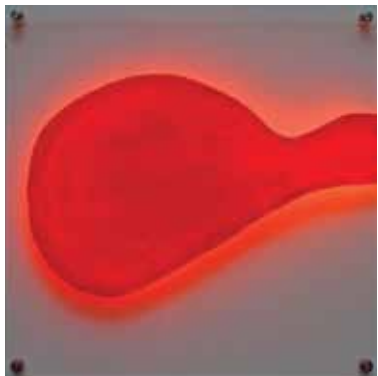
Gun Gordillo describes it herself as "a changing work that is hard to catch," an open structure that mirrors and changes with the surroundings. For that reason, she has never been interested in working in completely dark rooms. For they do not give anything back. Which the daylight does. When people pass Gordillo's installations it creates shadows and reflections that are woven into and becomes part of the work.

It is this constant interaction between the work and the world, between the natural and the artificial light as well as between architecture and nature, that is the hallmark of Gun Gordillo's work. And it is with this particular generosity that she has created her own calligraphy of light for more than 40 years.

The text is written by art historian Line Kjær based on conversations with Gun Gordillo early 2014.



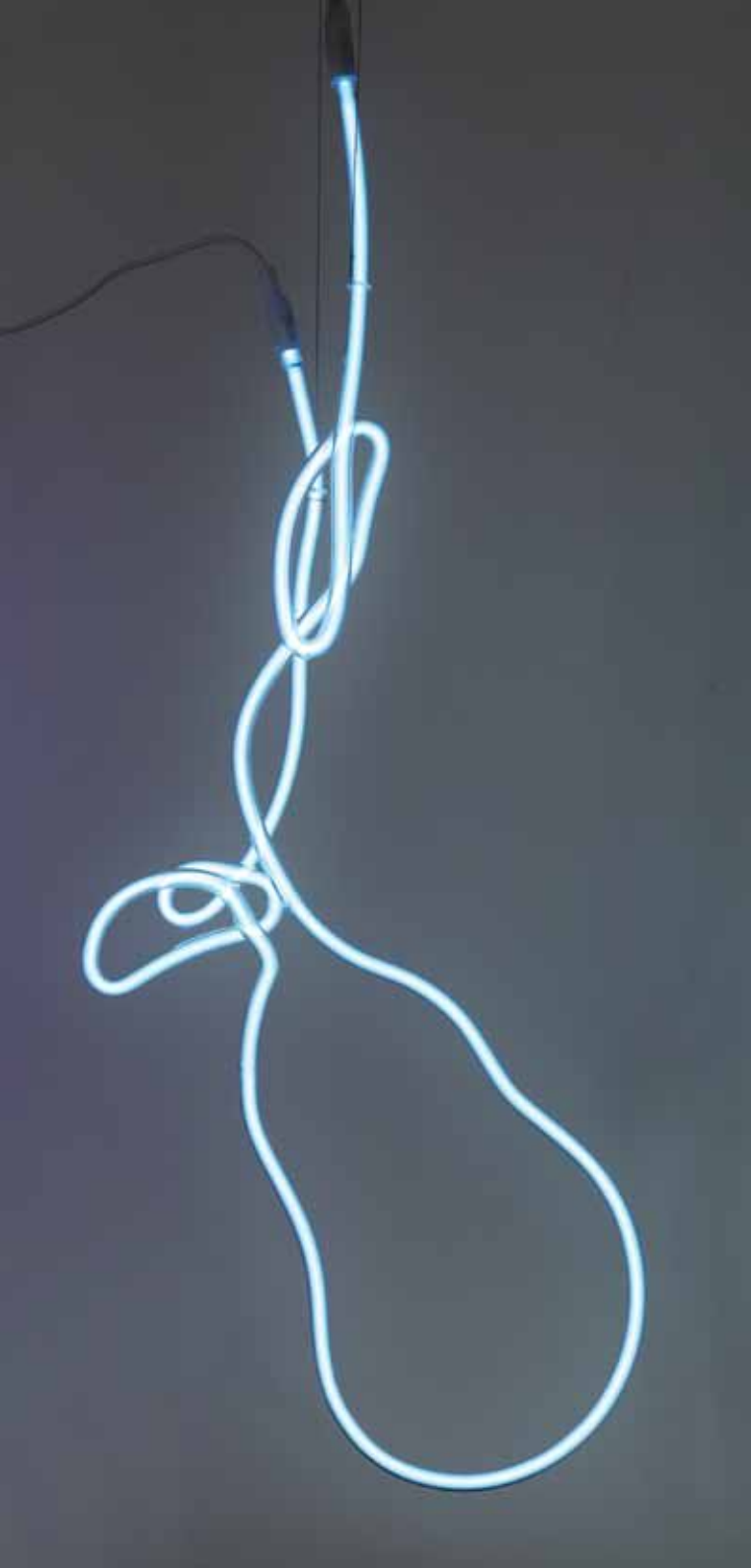
CHAOUA 2008
acrylic, neon, 60 x 60 x 7cm



SIRU 2011
acrylic, neon, 60 x 60 x 7 cm

GRIS 2005
acrylic, neon, 60 x 60 x 7 cm



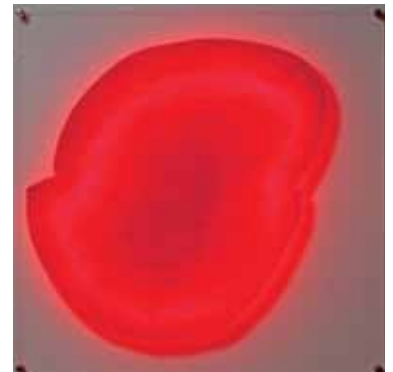


TEBESSA 2011
neon h. 1,3 m



CHUKKA 2014
acrylic, neon, 120 x 120 x 7cm

RUBELLUS 2011
acrylic, neon, 100 x 100 x 7 cm

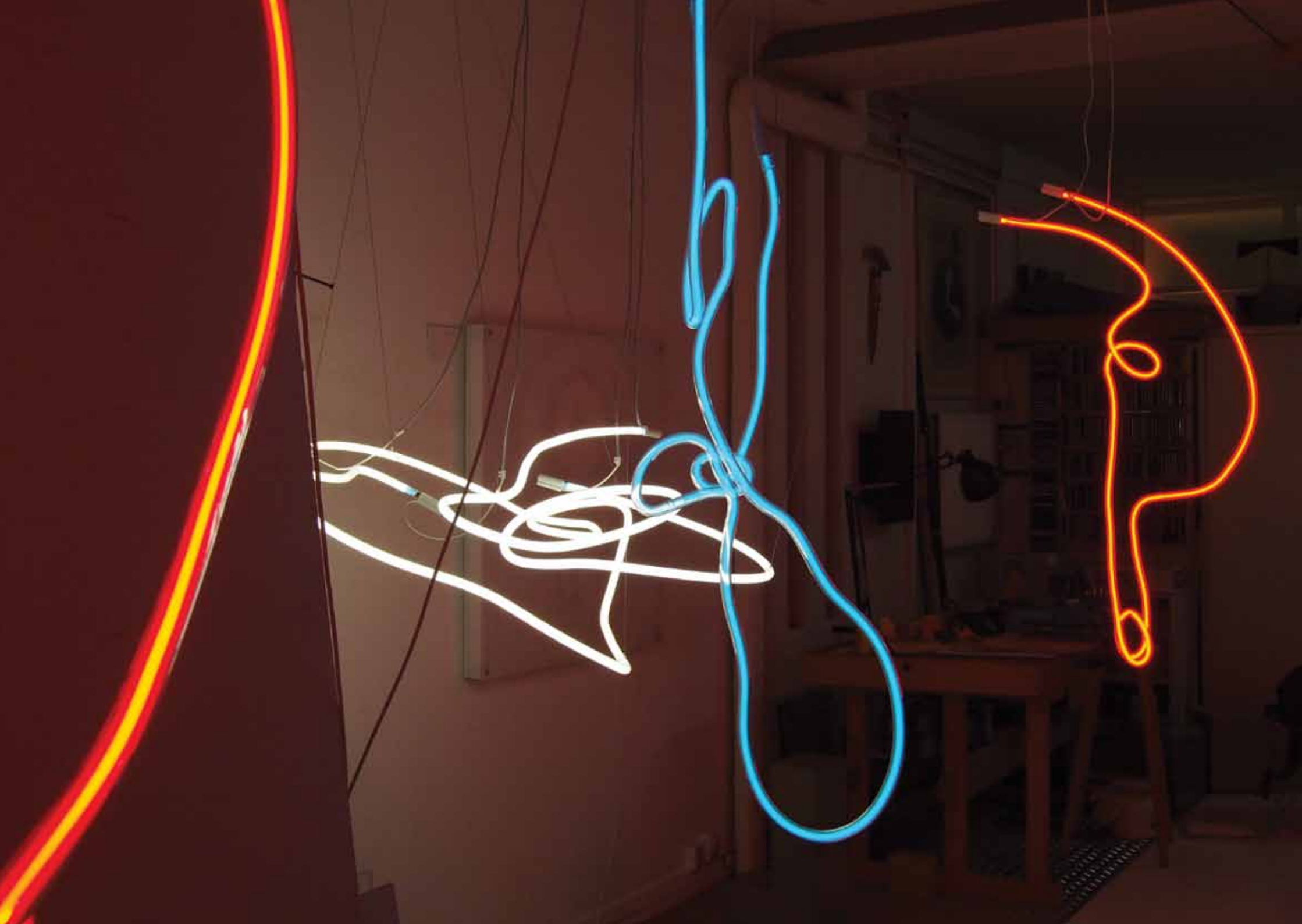


PSIPPHA 2014
neon h. 1,2 m



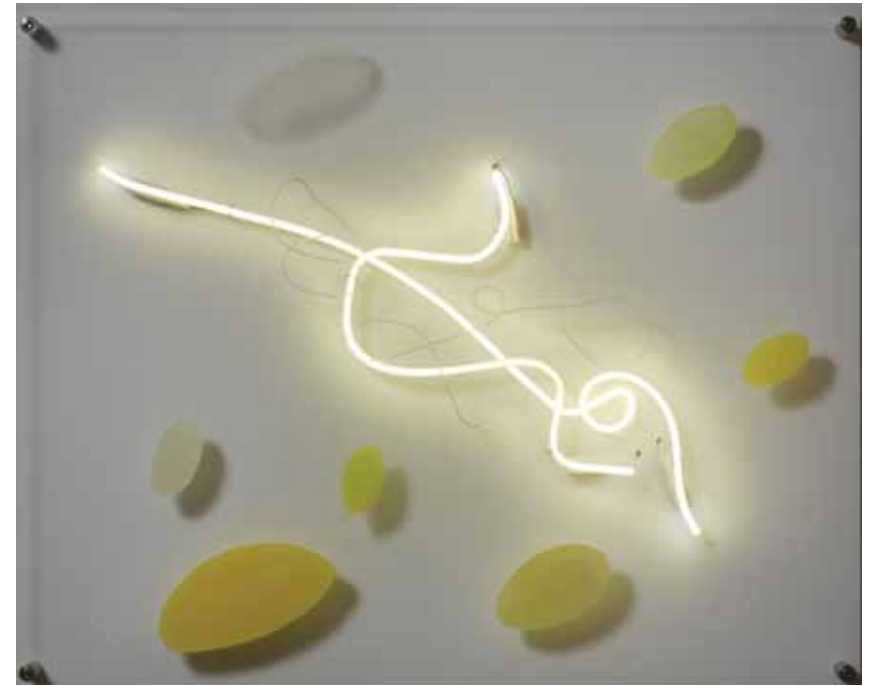
INDIYA 2012
neon h. 1,4 m







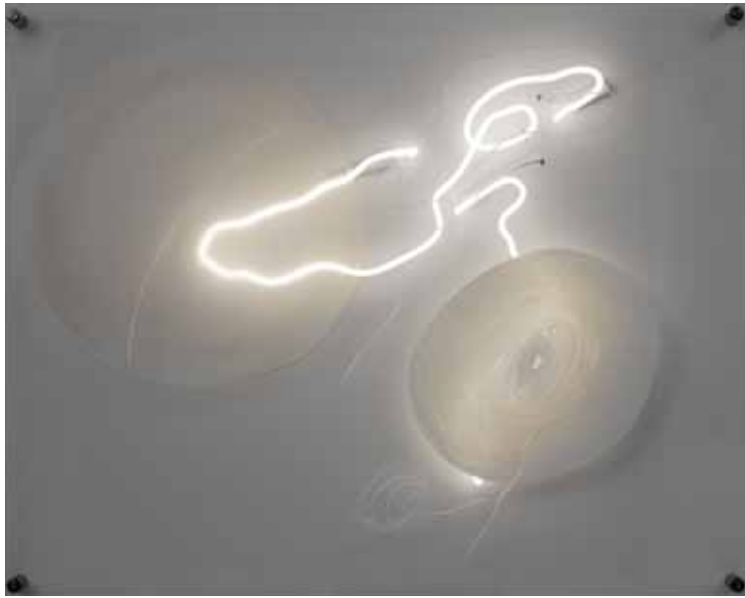
UDEN TITEL 1978
acrylic, wood, neon, 100 x 80 x 18 cm



REFLEXION JAUNE 2009
acrylic, neon, 80 x 100 x 7 cm



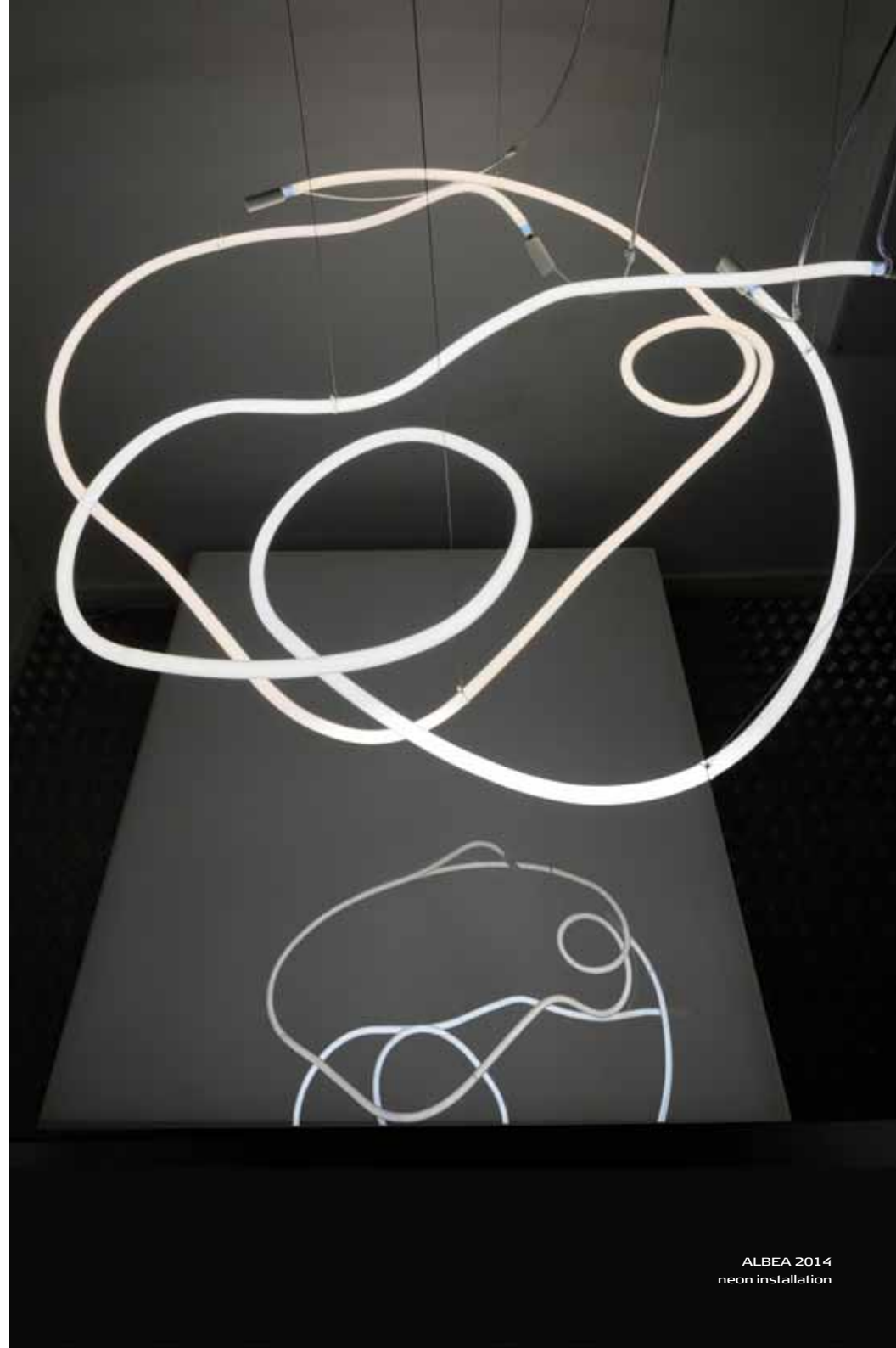
FLAVUS 2010
acrylic, neon, 75 x 75 x 7 cm



TRASLUCENZA 2008
acrylic, neon, 80 x 100 x 7 cm



CHOKOKA 2010
acrylic, neon, 75 x 75 x 7 cm



ALBEA 2014
neon installation



TARAXA 2013
neon h. 1,3 m



CHICHAOUA 2009
wood, neon, 120 x 120 x 17cm



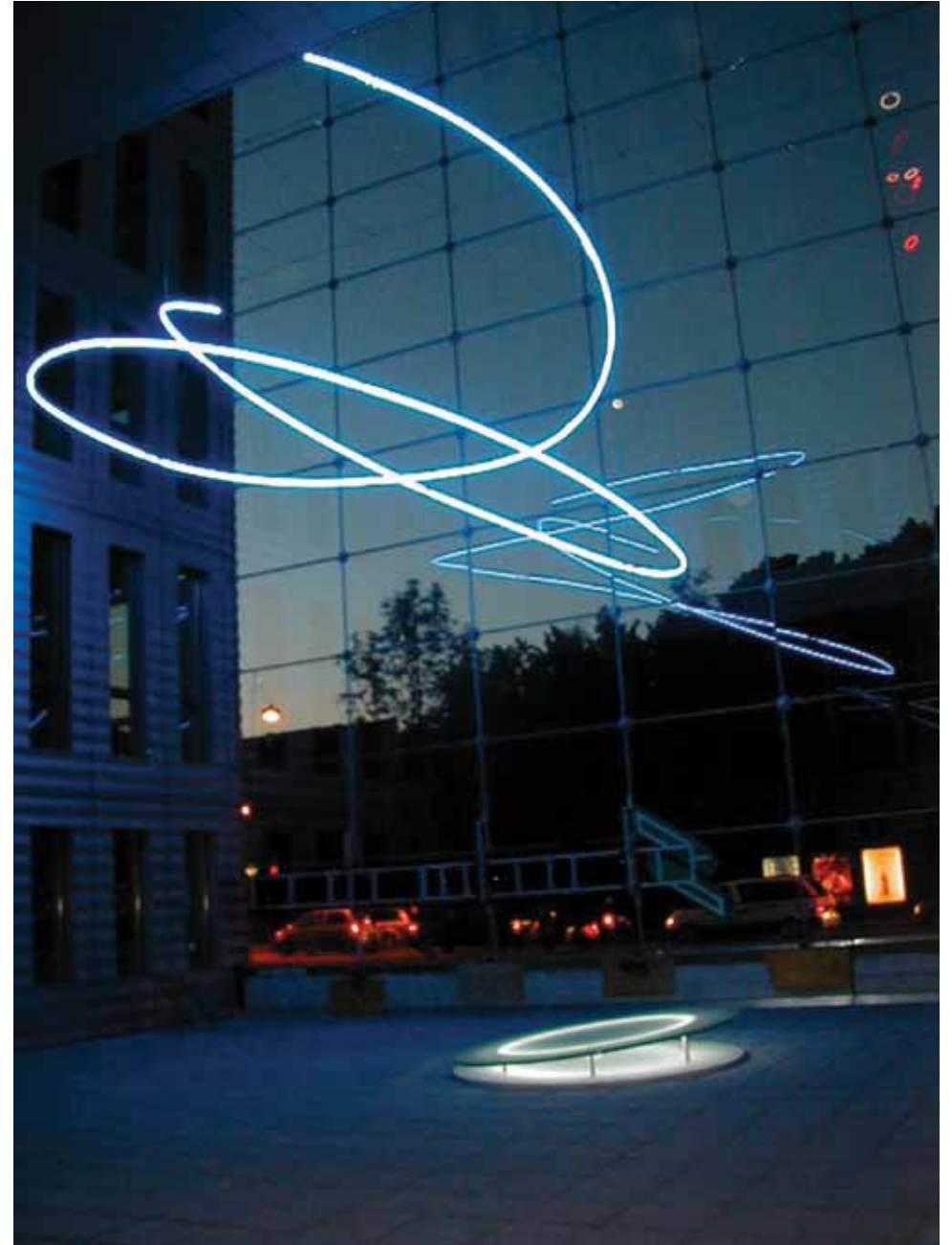
ISSA 2014
acrylic, neon, 100 x 100 x 7cm



PLAN ALBEA 2014
broby, sweden



LE PONT IMAGINAIRE 1987
copenhagen



jacob burckhardt haus 2004
basel



Biography gunter gordillo
born in lund, sweden, lives and works in copenhagen

selected solo exhibitions

1988, 91, 96, 2004, 2006, 2010, 2015
 galerie denise rené, paris.

2015
 banja rathnov galleri & kunsthandel,
 copenhagen.

2004
 kristianstad konsthall, sweden.

1996
 borås konstmuseum, sweden.

1995
 lunds konsthall, sweden.
 skissernas museum, lund, sweden.

1991
 galerie zouboulakis, athen.

1981
 ordrupgaard museum, copenhagen.

1977, 80, 81, 84
 galerie leger, malmö, sweden

selected group exhibitions

2014
 galerie denise rené, "7 artistes nordiques"

2013
 galerie denise rené, miami.
 gesellschaft für kunst und gestaltung, bonn"
 ceci n'est pas und lampe.
 art on galerie, istanbul

2012
 galerie denise rené, espace marais
 "Hommage à Denise René"
 galerie denise rené, espace marais
 "reflexions, forme, lumière"
 la maison rouge, paris "Néon, who's afraid
 of red, yellow and blue?"

1986-2014
 ART BASEL, galerie denise rené

1985-2013
 FIAC, galerie denise rené

2009
 galerie denise rené "happy yellow"

2008
 galerie raquel arnaud, sao paolo
 "luz, cor e movimento"

2007
 galerie denise rené "black & light"

2006
 galerie denise rené "quadrature du cercle",
 forum würrth, arlesheim, basel
 "kunst is bewegung"
 kunsthalle würrth, schwäbisch hall, germany

2004
 musée matisse, cateau cambresis, france.

2003-2004
 galerie beyeler, basel, schweiz.

"the spirit of white"

2002
 galerie denise rené, paris. "cinq scandinaves"
 baertling/traek/gordillo/jacobsen/mortensen

2001
 galerie hyunda, seoul, corea.
 galerie linder, basel, schweiz.
 wanåsutställningen, sweden.

centro atlantico de arte moderno, las palmas,
 spain. "hommage à denise rené"
 gammel holtegård, denmark. "klar form"

2000
 musée de cambrai, france. "le mouvement
 et la lumière"

tsukuba museum of art, ibaraki, japan.
 marugama genichiro, inokuma museum of
 contemporary art, japan.

"form and movement in the 20 th. century"
 galerie denise rené, paris. "NEON"

1999
 arco, madrid, galerie denise rené

charlottenborg utställningsbygning,
 copenhagen. "lumia"

1997
 cisternen "lys & lyd" gordillo traek

galerie denise rené, paris.
 "lumière et mouvement"

1996
 strasbourg, france. "hommage a denise rené"

1994
 århus kunstbygning.

"sine qua non" gordillo traek

1991
 kunstforeningen, copenhagen. "lys"

galerie art 4, la defense, paris. "la lumière
 et la ville"

1990
 centre culturel de compiegne, france.

"abstraction géométric"
 galerie theo, madrid. " hommage au carré"

1989
 galerie naviglio, milano. "denise rené
 presenta"

galerie redform, london. "denise rené back
 in town"

1988
 wanåsutställningen, sweden.

"la forêt imaginaire" neon project gordillo

1987
 copenhagen, kunst i byen.

"le pont imaginaire", neon project gordillo

1985
 galerie denise rené, paris.
 "les femmes et l'abstraction constructive"

selected art/architecture integration

2012

TTC Jönköping, monumental intergation, neon, acryl

2008

copenhagen, KAB, monumental integration, freak/gordillo

2007

stockholm, Martin Olsson AB, neon-installation

2004

basel, schweiz, jacob burckhardt haus, monumental integration - neon, glass, concrete, steel

2003

copenhagen, HK, monumental integration - neon, plexiglass

2001

arlanda airport - neoninstallation

2000

lund, sweden, railway station wall integration- neon, steel

1999

philips denmark, copenhagen. monumental integration- fibreoptic, stål

1998

quay of hammarby, stockholm, 8 monumental sculptures - terazzo, steel, neon
gåvle musikhus, sweden - neonnotationer in wire, neon

1997

metrostation hótorget, stockholm - monumental neon integration

astra zeneca, lund, sweden - monumental neon integration

1995

EDF, la defense, paris, wallintegrations - neon, plexiglass, cupper

1994

DSB, denmark, in traincoaches - integrations in steel, rubber

1993

HDK, sweden, monumental sculpture - steel, cupper, neon

1991

astra, södertälje, sweden, monumental sculpture - diabas, plexiglass, neon

1989

copenhagen businessschool, copenhagen - wallreliefs in lead, cupper, neon
la defense, paris, entrance art 4 - neon-installation

1987

slussen bussterminal, stockholm, monumental integration - wood, steel, plexiglass, diabas, cupper, neon

1986

fredericia station, denmark, monumental integration in cooperation with freddy fraek - neon, cupper, wood



BLEU 1996

lead, neon, 100 x 100 x 5 cm

Banja Rathnov

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BANJA RATHNOV
Galleri & Kunsthandel

Gun Gordillo