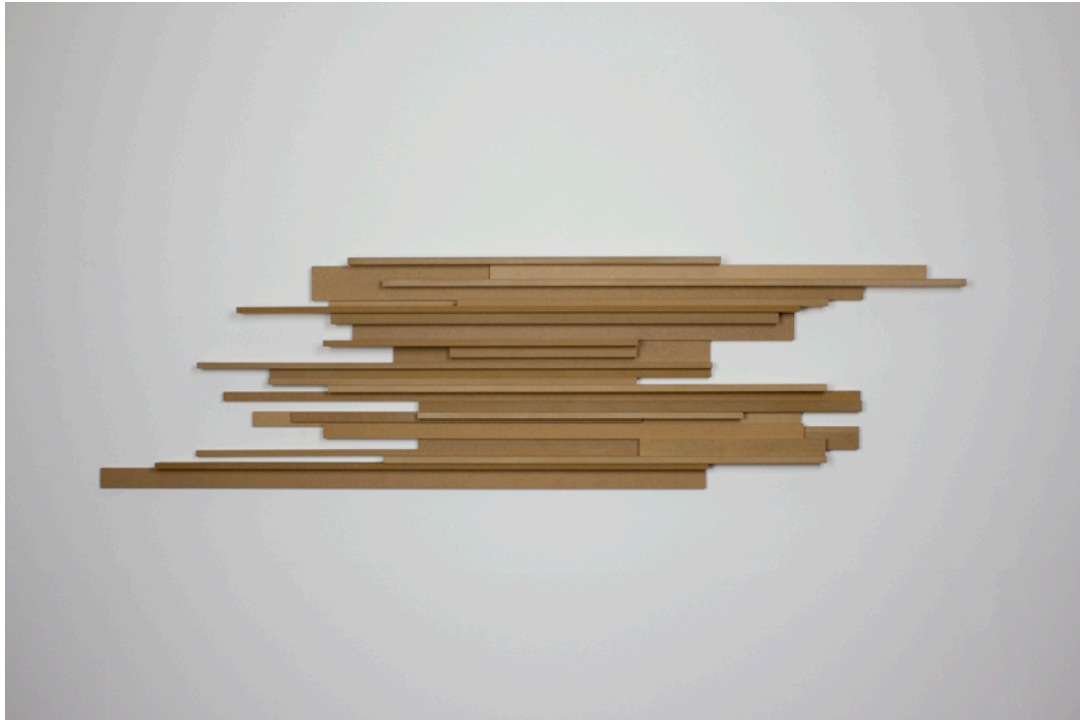


THOMAS VINSON 'new order'
January 18 to March 19, 2013



natural order, 2012, MDF, 63 x 238 x 11 cm

The Galerie Wenger is pleased to begin the exhibition year 2013 with the German artist Thomas Vinson. It is his first solo exhibition in Switzerland. The artist has long been occupied with pursuing a reduced language and feels a connection to American minimalist art.

An extended stay in Houston, Texas, where he worked on sculptural techniques in wood and metal, was very crucial to developing ideas for executing his new projects. Certain ways of working he adopted in the United States have helped him realize his objects, since his works demand great precision.

The artist makes use of materials from nature and from the construction industry. His first sculptures were made from found pieces of wood and later he used MDF (medium-density fiberboard) panels, which he paints, works, and assembles. Thomas Vinson uses rarely paint in his work. The assembled wooden parts are mounted on a wooden board primed white to produce reliefs.

The choice of materials plays, according to Thomas Vinson, a very central role. For example, the artist uses, among other things, sandpaper and tarpaper for his works. The properties of these materials offer a wealth of possibilities in the perception of color and light.

In the works in this exhibition, the artist is playing with horizontal and vertical lines at various distances. The structuring of the different planes leads to a sensitive tension between the levels, which are white, black, or in primary colors.

Within the cube of the gallery, Thomas Vinson is showing forty small-format, framed drawings—his *Constructive Archive, Volume 1*—stored in a box made especially for that purpose. The works exhibited, which can be changed at whim, according to the artist, permit ever new impressions. It is conceived as a single work.

For Thomas Vinson, both grappling with the space and the hanging of the drawings are of central significance. Each new exhibition is a kind of installation: unique and impossible to reproduce in any other space.

Thomas Vinson was born in Paris in 1970. After studying in Houston for three years, he returned to Germany in 2000. Since 2004, the artist is working either in Giessen or in Paris. Since 2007 he has been exhibiting at Art Basel and he regularly shows his works (wall reliefs, sculptures, and installations) in Germany and France, in the latter most recently at the Carrousel du Louvre in March 2012. His works are represented in collections in Switzerland, Germany, France, and the United States. His most recent solo exhibition was at FABRIKculture in Hégenheim, France, in March 2011.