

Moritz Altmann – *Megacities And The Old Gods*

30th March – 6th May 2017

Megacities And The Old Gods is Moritz Altmann's first exhibition at Galerie Françoise Heitsch. The objects of the exhibition are derived from the artist's preoccupation with various different ornamental systems; while the last object group focusses in an increasing manner on its very position as an expression of social phenomena. If the historical ornament was previously put in the foreground, now, the regularity of the very same is transferred onto more general phenomena, onto structures and pattern, which do not emerge from the creative will, but from the inner necessity to create the very system they are based on.

Megacities And The Old Gods. The laden title already suggests a great undertaking: the exhibited objects attempt to debate nothing less than the relationship between the cosmic order as symbolised by the Old Gods and the structures of utopian megacities. The complexity of this endeavour holds within an execution that must remain fragmented and in an ever-developing state.

Creations for eternity will be shattered by time itself. Likewise, the organisation of a city, a society, must fail, if its underlying rules and regulations were not created to adjust to the circle of ever-changing needs.

The megacity resembles an organism too, if even the slime fungus *Physarum polycephalum* can replicate the underground network in Tokyo. *It seems as if a connection between the faculty of the human imagination and physical matter exists, which causes a boundless creation of new forms. On a distinct level of abstraction, these forms thus become to resemble each other as well as those that have formed naturally.*