What do the things we own say about us? From the objects with which we ritualize our lives into the things with which we ritualize our lives and into the way we communicate and portray ourselves through objects. Steinbach distinguished his approach when he spoke of the role of desire in his work. In a recent interview in Artforum, he elaborated: “Desire translates into the things with which we ritualize our lives and into the way we communicate and portray ourselves through objects.”

Steinbach works with existing objects, some found, others borrowed or bought, among them old supermarket, figural, bike shoes, and statues. However, his process goes beyond Duchamp’s “readymade.” For Steinbach, the shelf as furniture/sculpture puts the emphasis on architecture and how being within and among them makes us feel. For Steinbach “curates,” or collects and presents, groupings of objects in display. Through the selection, arrangement, and perhaps most important, the intervention on headphones. He is currently working on a similar project in Vienna titled Objects for People—Snapshots. In an artist’s statement published in the mid-1980s, Steinbach wrote, “The cult of the individual, grounded in a passion for unique things (object, love, truth) has been replaced by a burning desire for multiplicity.”

In outlin...
Phyllis Wattis MATRIX Curator
Heidi Zuckerman Jacobson

Gained over twenty-five years of art making, in Steinbach’s MATRIX work the image of the desirer. In a type of blissful circularity that graces great art desire is reflected in its object-bound container, with a reflection of desire as complicated. Steinbach augments his portrait of contemporary society, in which failure of mechanical reproduction to capture and sustain that essence, art you can also observe others watching their own image as object. What role the artist is choosing to display in a museum context. As you enter the corridor and begin to view the more conventional objects placed there by the artist, you may also observe others watching their own image as object. What role


1944

Selected Group Exhibitions
1992

1993

1999

2000

2002

2003

2005

Selected Solo Exhibitions
2002

2005

Selected Works

30 chairs, 4 chairs, table, various objects
4 chairs, table, various objects
4 chairs, table, various objects
21 metal shelving units, 17 two-way mirrored glass panels, 4 video monitors, 4 interviews,
2 metal shelving units, 2 one-way mirrored glass panels, 4 video monitors, 4 interviews,
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