

GALERIE ANDREA CARATSCH

PRESS RELEASE

DOKOUPIL

„ARRUGADISMUS EXTENDED“

AUGUST 26 – SEPTEMBER 4, 2011

ST. MORITZ ART MASTERS

Protestant Church – St. Moritz Dorf

Jirí Georg Dokoupil was born on June 3, 1954 in Krnov (today Czechia). The family immigrated to Germany after the violent end of the Prague Spring in 1968. After receiving his high-school diploma, he went to art academies in Cologne, Frankfurt am Main and to Cooper Union in New York, where the German concept artist Hans Haacke taught him. Today he lives and works in Berlin, Madrid, Prague and Rio de Janeiro.

Dokoupil works conceptually and does not have one particular style. He rather paraphrases former styles and plays with them. He continuously creates new techniques and experiments with them excessively. His work today contains more than 60 series and over 100 different techniques and styles. From 1988 onwards, he developed his technique of soot painting. Thereby Dokoupil holds a candle in his hand and “paints” with soot, which is created by the candle flame. The canvas hangs above him. He uses as templates projected pictures on the canvas.

St. Moritz Art Masters shows a new series of soot paintings. Dokoupil has painted them especially for the exhibition and the rooms of the Protestant church. His large size monumental works have religious subjects and are displayed with holy sculptures. Their metal base frame has a characteristic patina. This implicates that the sculptures have visual features of stalagmites, which are typically found in dripstone caves.