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Karl Fritsch: Ruby Gold

Edited by Galerie Zink, Waldkirchen

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- 80 new rings by Karl Fritsch - avant-garde art for the fingers!
- Accompanies an exhibition at Galerie Zink, Waldkirchen, Germany, 12 September – 20 December 2020

Karl Fritsch (b. 1963), master of extravagant rings, returns with a publication that lures us deep into his world. *Ruby Gold* is a "no-frills" pared-back book, without pagination, without essays. Instead it comprises 81 rings from the past 20 years featuring embedded gemstones and such memorable slogans as "Fuck Off" and "Nudelsuppe" (Noodle Soup). The jewelry artist's unmatched mastery of material and expression is apparent in every single ring, and every piece possesses tremendous energy as a result of the delicate yet archaic handling of the precious metals: Karl Fritsch carves in silver, shapes in gold, sets rubies and zirconias as a child would decorate a cake – with self-confidence and with no regard for waste. In between the detailed illustrations, Fritsch brings the rings and fingers into ironic dialogues with each other: "Ring: I am art. / Finger: Oh come on…" And: "Ring: I am a ring. / Finger: You are unwearable." Text in English and German. Published to accompany an exhibition at Galerie Zink, Waldkirchen, Germany, 12 September – 20 December 2020.

Karl Fritsch (*1963, Sonthofen, Germany) began his education at the Goldsmiths School in Pforzheim and studied at the Academy of Fine Arts (1987–1994) in Munich. Fritsch has taught in art schools across the world and exhibited internationally, and his work has been acquired for public collections including at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, and the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington. In 2006 he received the highly prestigious international Françoise van den Bosch Award.

In focusing on the ring, Fritsch explores taste, aesthetics and desire as he manipulates perceived ideas of preciousness and convention. The highly covetable rings have seen him win numerous awards and become a cult figure in contemporary jewelry.

Together with his wife, Lisa Walker, and their family, Karl Fritsch lives and works in Wellington, New Zealand.







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