

## Anu Tuominen: Blue

Anu Tuominen turns her attention to materials and tools, with which everyone is familiar, such as kitchen utensils and stationery, and appropriates them through simple acts of knitting, cutting or assorting. Her works often involve aspects of craft; making a necklace by threading bead-like shortened pieces of pencils, or transforming old gloves into vessels or little animals by sewing them together. Although they all originate in concepts, they carry a sense of warmth, often concealing humor for which one cannot help bursting into a laugh. The artist carefully observes and analyzes each object's form and function, and the quality and colors inherent in materials. While maintaining the original state of an object, she gives a second life to it, triggering an endless chain of imagination for a viewer as in a word-association game.

'Blue' is the title of Tuominen's fourth solo exhibition at Art-U room. It gathers the works inspired by 'blue' - by its color as well as its connoted sense of *gloom* or *sadness*. A stain of blue ink left on the paper; a chain of blue beads crocheted from the blue thread; all these pieces seem to allude a state where a poetic image would emerge and vanish in the blue of the endless sky once a certain word or shape had taken its form.

The show is accompanied by Anu Tuominen's new publication "*Naturally!*". This book records Tuominen's creative practice in her daily life and surroundings.

### ■ ANU TUOMINEN

Born 1961, in Finland, Tuominen studied furniture design at the University of Art and Design in Helsinki, and specialized in Media Studies at the Academy of Fine Arts. In 1989, during her university study, she began presenting her works in solo and group shows. In 2003, she won the Grand prize at Ars Fennica, the most respected annual award given to an outstanding Finnish artist in the field of visual art. Lately, she has been participating in solo and group shows in and out of Finland, especially in Europe, receiving attention from the fields of design and craft, in addition to art.

#### Exhibition details:

### Anu Tuominen: Blue

Sept.22 - Oct.30, 2011

Tue.-Sat. 12:00-19:00. Sun.12:00-17:00. closed Mon.

\* Open on Sept.23 (National holiday)

Opening reception with the artist: Sept.22, 18:00 - 20:00.

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### Art-U room

5-51-3 Galeria 3F, Jingumae, Shibuya ward, Tokyo, Japan #150-0001

Tel. 03-5467-3938 / Mail [artuinfo@abox23.so-net.ne.jp](mailto:artuinfo@abox23.so-net.ne.jp)

URL [www.art-u-room.com](http://www.art-u-room.com)



"Blue Thoughts"  
2010, Mallard feather



"Lonely and Blue"  
2011, shirt/cutting



"Words"  
colored pencils/carving

For further information and images, please inquire by phone or e-mail