
Christoph Büchel

Down and dirty

One of Switzerland's leading young artists, Christoph Büchel has buried cars, blown up buses and transformed water towers into labyrinths. His current project at Hauser & Wirth's Coppermill gallery, off Brick Lane, is

unprecedented in size, filling two huge industrial spaces (until 18 March 2007). It includes a claustrophobic apartment, several shipping containers, a dingy appliance shop and tunnels. Surveying his work can involve sartorial damage, so it is advisable to leave the stilettos at home.

The centrepiece of the show—a gargantuan piece rising from a block of earth—required a hole in the floor. Büchel is notoriously obsessive, so seemingly random collections of industrial, commercial and domestic detritus are arranged with precise intention. In fact, Büchel continued to rework the show after Tuesday's private view, opening spaces he had initially closed off to the public because he was not fully satisfied with them at the time. Büchel is represented by Hauser & Wirth (C6) and Maccarone Inc (B6).

Marc Spiegler