**VENSKE & SPÄNLE AUTOEATER - SWALLOWED ALLEGORY OF A GENERATION**

Venske & Spänle are interested in the spatial interaction between

sculpture, space and viewer.

Their body of work is dispersed over the whole globe. Often times,

their works assert their presence in urban and representative

spaces, museums and often even landscapes; like for instance in an

pacific village or on a boat in the Congo.

The largest body of work are the Smörfs with over 270 specimen.

These small, whimsical creatures form a collective and accompany

people. Through their materiality they survive their owners and stay

as cultural witnesses.

Contradictory the Gumpfots are individuals, stating growth through

their characteristically expression.

The third body of work are the Helotrophs . They need a host to be a

complete sculpture, such as a space, a person or a daily object,

standing in relation to the artists and their history.

With Glutton the artists set a monument for a Fiat Panda car from

the 80ties. Driving a Panda was part of an alternative lifestyle in the

youth of the artists, now long past.

The three door Panda with its 30 PS was a form of protest against

the motorized establishment. As the Italian counterpart to the

Volkswagen Beetle the Panda is one of the most successful cars in

automobile history.

Here Venske & Spänle work with cervaiole marble, giving the

sculptures live through its radiant translucency.

For Autoeater the sculptors carved a 16 ton marble block. With a

crane the Fiat got lifted up and bolted down onto the sculpture

with a steel frame.

The car seems to be swallowed by the Glutton and preserved for

eternity. Like wrapped in a thin skin of stone the contour of the

vehicle is visible through the marble.

Timeless stone and a past era meet.

The Autoeater was sculpted due to the generous invitation of Paolo Carli

and Manuela della Ducata of the HENRAUX FOUNDATION located in

Querceta (Carrara) Italy. HENRAUX was a meeting place for

numerous well known artists of the modern era in the 50ties and

60ties, such as Henry Moore, Hans Arp, Joan Miro and

Isamo Noguchi.