

ERLING'S ROOMS

The very first time I came across Erling, was in his role as a publisher. Soon after, I discovered his alpinist and mountaineering adventures, as well as his long durational performances, where natural and meteorological phenomena are presented as non-tangible things that imperceptibly influence and transform our skins and our souls.

And then there is, of course, in the heart of it all: His activity of collecting. Erling is a pioneering collector who very often collects artists at the beginning of their trajectory and continues to accompany their path.

There is something that links all the different dimensions, as expressed by the great artist and poet Etel Adnan: "It is what we call our person. There is a link that you don't do purposely, it's there, it's your sensitivity, it's your identity ... It's one person in different rooms."

Hans Ulrich Obrist

One has to be exceptionally adventurous, distinct, determined and dedicated to do the expeditions Erling Kagge told me about – looking at the collection of art he brought together, one can see the exact qualities of commitment to artists and their works looking at the uncertainties and challenges of our contemporary life.

Beatrix Ruf

Photo: Ina Hagen



Roe Ethridge
Louise Blowing a Bubble (2011)
C-print
111.8 × 83.8 cm
Edition: 1/5 + 2AP