

LIVIE FINE ART

PRESS RELEASE

JUNE 2019

GALLERY OPENING LIVIE FINE ART IN ZURICH

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 6-8PM

OPENING HOURS DURING ZURICH ART WEEKEND

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 11AM-8PM (BREAKFAST FROM 11AM-3PM)

SUNDAY JUNE 9, 11AM-6PM

Marie Christine Schuh and Caspar Livie are opening the new gallery space LIVIE FINE ART on Friday, June 7, coinciding with the Zurich Art Weekend shortly before Art Basel. For the occasion, a selection of works by Günther Förg, Katharina Grosse and Imi Knoebel will be on view.

The gallery's opening exhibition brings together works by three artists of German origin who explore the practice of abstract painting in various ways. While their artistic techniques and objectives differ, they share a common interest in topics like color in abstract painting, and how to convey new ideas about space and structure into the exhibition space. By posing these questions, they are overstepping boundaries between disciplines and mediums, three-dimensional space and flat surfaces. Förg, Grosse and Knoebel have each dealt with the heritage of modern painting and the need to break with conventions by inventing a new kind of formal language in contemporary abstract painting.

Our group exhibition presents a selection of works by these three artists in several mediums and from different periods, aiming to show their specific contribution to contemporary abstract painting.

Günther Förg (Füssen 1952 - 2013 Freiburg im Breisgau) has been acknowledged as one of the most significant German artists of the post-war generation. In his oeuvre, Förg deals with the heritage of modern art by giving the viewer visual references to previous modern masters. Through an apparently insouciant execution, leaving slight imperfections and therefore evoking signs of human touch, the artist breaks the shining surface of modernism, making us aware of the ubiquity of the past and our relation to it. Förg shares a common interest with Imi Knoebel in working in repetitions and series, and in the use of line as a tool to manipulate the pictorial space. He has explored these questions throughout various mediums, from wall paintings, photographs, often in juxtaposition with mirrors, works on canvas, paper and lead. The Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, and the Dallas Museum of Art, Texas, have dedicated the major solo retrospective 'A Fragile Beauty' to Günther Förg recently (2018-19).

Imi Knoebel, born 1940 in Dessau as Klaus Wolf Knoebel, student of Joseph Beuys at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, has been described as one of the artists of post-war abstract art with the most systematic approach. Knoebel refers to himself as „painter“ rather than „artist“, and thereby emphasizes on the notion of craftsmanship in making art. The heritage of modern art is equally important to Knoebel as it is to Förg, but he deals with it in a very different way. Using Kasimir Malewitsch's Black Square of 1915 as a zero point, he takes it as an opportunity to start something new and, similar to

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Malewitsch, aims to create icons of his own time. Both color and line have always been important topics for Knoebel in that respect. While Blinky Palermo was an inspiration for the use of color, Knoebel thoroughly researched the application of line in space by means of an extensive series of studies.

Recent solo exhibitions of Imi Knoebel's work have been shown at Museum Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich, Switzerland (2018); Museum der Bildenden Künste, Leipzig, Germany (2016); Musée National Fernand Léger, Biot, France (2016) and Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf, Germany (2015).

Katharina Grosse, born 1961 in Freiburg im Breisgau and now based in Berlin, has been expanding the notion of painting in a seemingly effortless play between the explosive power of color, spacial setting, drawing, installation, and music, thereby absorbing and changing existing architecture. As with Imi Knoebel, color is a vital topic for Katharina Grosse. By applying color with a spray-gun and thereby extending her body with a mechanical device, layer for layer she creates new imagery. In her temporary in situ installations, the viewer not only looks at a painting but experiences a full immersion by entering the room of the work: walls, floors, and ceilings all fuse into one. Closely interlinked to the in situ installations are the works on canvas or paper created in the studio, which apply the same pictorial vocabulary and often serve as a vital part of the installations.

Katharina Grosse's work is represented in major museums and private collections worldwide. Recent solo exhibitions include Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA (2018); chi K11 art museum, Shanghai, China (2018); National Gallery, Prague, Czech Republic (2018); Rockaway! MoMA PS1, Fort Tilden, Queens, NY (2016); Museum Frieder Burda, Baden-Baden, Germany (2015). A special exhibition dedicated to the artists' works on paper was on view at Museum Wiesbaden, Wiesbaden, Germany in 2015.

ABOUT LIVIE FINE ART

Marie Christine Schuh and Caspar Livie have long been passionate art collectors before opening Livie Fine Art in the heart of Zurich in spring 2019, focusing on the secondary market for modern and contemporary masters. Caspar, long involved in his family's Munich art business, and Marie Christine, with years of experience in international galleries and fairs, apply their wide-ranging expertise in the international art market to best advise collectors at all levels, emerging and experienced alike.

Their extensive network has allowed them to place important works in international private and institutional collections. Believing that artworks are often best understood in juxtaposition and as part of a continuum, Marie Christine and Caspar strive to propose dialogues among the works they present, with a particular focus on artists from Germany, Austria, and America.

The exhibition will be on view until July 19, 2019.

Opening Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 11am-6pm, and by appointment

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