

# dépendance

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**CONDO LONDON**  
dépendance at Sadie Coles  
January 11 - February 8, 2020

dépendance is delighted to take part in CONDO London 2020, hosted by Sadie Coles's Mayfair space. For Condo we bring together works by three gallery artists: Christian Flamm, Jos de Gruyter & Harald Thys and Lucie Stahl.

In the thirty years spent working together – from their first meeting at Sint Lucas University College of Arts of Brussels in 1987 – Jos de Gruyter (B. 1965, Belgium) and Harald Thys (B. 1966, Belgium) have given shape to a heterogeneous and complex corpus of works. They have been working with and embracing among other approaches video as well as drawing, sculpture, installation and performance. The artists have made numerous sculptural and videos that use puppets and portraits as their subject. One of their main interests is portraying the human being, its behaviour alone as well as in groups. The characters are portrayed are often those that can be considered marginalised in society. The faces and bodies are often simplified or even abstract presented almost as caricatures in an absurd, artificial world.

Here is presented a series of 6 small sculptural heads made of plaster, fake hair and paint. The faces are placed on small shelves throughout the gallery space. The 3D-printed plaster faces of international politicians, dictators, B-movie actors, friends, publicly known recognisable figures, murderers and victims, living as well as dead historical people, are presented without any hierarchy and moral judgment. No matter their historical importance or role, they all appear equal (equally frightening and equally innocent), flat, motionless and stereotyped. The presentation is accompanied by a booklet with individual descriptions and photographs of all characters and their stories.

Lucie Stahl (b. 1978, Germany) utilizes a flatbed scanner to create large-format images in which food, photographs, magazine clippings, and trash appear to emerge from a dark abyss. The resulting images are encased in resin, giving them a glossy, tactile finish and distinct material presence. Stahl's work plays with the notion of liquidity in its many forms—from finance to bodily fluids, and the malleability of gender, identity, and images. In all her work, the artist explores the trappings of modern day consumer culture through found objects and imagery, addressing branding, consumption, addiction, dependency, and excess.

Christian Flamm (b. 1974, Germany) explores his personal relationship with collective imagery. On his computer and canvases the artist composes imagery which is charged with emotion and promise. The works' graphic appeal heightens the iconic quality of the images. Their suggestive openness provokes the spectator to project their wishes, fantasies, and memories onto them. Having a background as a graphic designer, his work bridges between art, design and music.

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Jos de Gruyter & Harald Thys live and work in Brussels. They were the subject of the Belgian Pavilion at the 58th Venice Biennale. The exhibition will travel to Bozar, Brussels on February 2020. Recent solo exhibitions include *Konkurs Eksperten* at Kunsthall Aarhus (2018); *30 Jahre Kunst* at Kunstverein München, Munich and *ELEGANTIA*, Triennale Milan, Milan (2017); *White Suprematism* at Portikus Frankfurt and CAC Vilnius (2016); *Im Reich der Sonnenfinsternis* at MCA Chicago; *Fine Arts* at MOMA PS1 and *Tram 3* at CCA Wattis (2015); *Das Wunder des Lebens* at Kunsthalle Wien (2014) and *Optimundus* at M HKA, Antwerp (2013), among others.

Lucie Stahl lives and works in Berlin. Recent solo exhibitions include Fri Art, Kunsthalle Freiburg, Freiburg (2018) and Dallas Museum of Art (2016). Group exhibitions include: Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris (2019); Kunsthalle Basel (2017); Berlin Biennale (2016); and Lyon Biennial (2015), among others. Her work is included in the collections of Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, the 21er Haus, Vienna and the Rubell Family Collection, Miami.

Christian Flamm lives and works in London. He has exhibited widely throughout Europe and North America such as ICA, London; Frankfurter Kunstverein; Bunderkunsthalle, Bonn; and Kölnischer Kunstverein, Cologne. His work is part of the collection of The Museum of Modern Art, New York.