

André Butzer

Berlin: Bleibtreustraße 15/16, 29 May – 1 August 2020



Galerie Max Hetzler is pleased to announce the opening of a new space at Bleibtreustraße 15/16, with an exhibition of recent works by **André Butzer**. The exhibition will inaugurate the gallery's third location in Berlin.

A street level gallery, in a magnificent art nouveau building, Bleibtreustraße 15/16 was formerly the home of the pioneering German avant-garde art dealer Alfred Flechtheim (1878 born in Münster; 1937 died in London), who lived there from 1923 to 1933, before the Nazi regime

forced him to emigrate to London. A memorial plaque on the outside of the building commemorates him as: "art dealer, publisher and friend of modern art".

Situated in the heart of Berlin-Charlottenburg, the new space will join the gallery's current locations at Bleibtreustraße 45 and Goethestraße 2/3, continuing Galerie Max Hetzler's longstanding commitment to exhibiting the work of contemporary artists across generations.

Since 2018, André Butzer resides in California and continues his elementary explorations of colour, light, and pictorial scale. Yet, everything seems to be "seen anew". His paintings virtually reinvent themselves. Some of them are now even titled again, often in the form of basic words such as "Pistachios", "Barber Shop", and "Lunch". Everyday things, places and activities from which the mosaic of an American experience gradually forms itself.

Central to the selection of five recent paintings and one work on paper is *English Muffins*. In its visual abundance, the painting is just as overwhelming as it is ravishing. It encompasses the entire chromatic spectrum. Every hue, every state of colour is incorporated into this painterly simultaneity of escalation and serenity. Butzer keeps what is abstract and what is corporeal, what disintegrates and what assembles in a precarious balance.

English Muffins is accompanied by two paintings upon which coloured bands, together with metallic and flesh-like forms, ornamentally "create planes", as well as by paintings of a single woman and a group. Planar pictorial figures gaining universal validity due to their iconic appearance, their reproducibility, and their accessibility.

Butzer's latest paintings reveal all those polar opposites to be one single whole and realise a coherent conjunction of colours, lines, planes, figuration and abstraction.

André Butzer (*1973, Stuttgart), lives in Altadena, California. Fusing European Expressionism with American popular culture since 1994, Butzer has painted his way through the artistic and political extremes of the 20th century: life and death, consumption and mass entertainment. Today, he is one of the internationally most recognized painters of his generation. Butzer's work has been presented in solo exhibitions in renowned institutions, such as the IKOB Museum of Contemporary Art, Eupen (2018); Växjö Konsthall, Växjö (2018); Neue Galerie Gladbeck (2016); Kestnergesellschaft, Hanover (2011); Theseustempel, Vienna (2011) and Kunsthalle Nürnberg, Nuremberg (2009), among others. His works are in the collections of the Art Institute of Chicago; Carré d'Art, Nîmes; Deichtorhallen Hamburg; Hall Art Foundation, Reading; Nationalgalerie – Hamburger Bahnhof,

Berlin; LACMA, Los Angeles; MOCA, Los Angeles; Paula Modersohn-Becker Museum, Bremen; Rubell Museum, Miami; Sammlung zeitgenössischer Kunst der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, Germany and YUZ Museum Shanghai, among others. This is the thirteenth exhibition of Butzer's work at Galerie Max Hetzler since 2003. It will be followed by a solo exhibition at our Paris gallery space in autumn 2020.

Further exhibitions:

11 March – Summer 2020

Christopher Wool

41 Dover Street W1S 4NS London

21 March – 27 June 2020

Ida Ekblad

A DEEP MEDICINE

57, rue du Temple 75004 Paris

2 – 16 May 2020

Giulia Andreani

Was birgst du so bang dein Gesicht?

Online Exhibition

12 June – 1 August 2020

BED AND CLOCK, MOON AND BEACH: Edvard Munch

Group show curated by Christian Malycha

Goethestraße 2/3, 10623 Berlin

12 June – 1 August 2020

Summer exhibition

Group show

Bleibtreustraße 45, 10623 Berlin

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