

KÖNIG GALERIE

MATTHIAS WEISCHER

KÖNIG TOKIO

23 SEPTEMBER - 15 NOVEMBER 2020

KÖNIG TOKIO presents an exhibition of new works by Matthias Weischer, on view from September 23rd through November 15th, 2020. This is Weischer's third solo show with the gallery.

The recent paintings of Leipzig-based artist Matthias Weischer unpack like rooms within rooms. In these works, the edges of a painting act like artificial boundaries within which any number of possibilities can be realized. The current exhibition focuses on the possibilities of interiors: both as an architectural space and as an externalisation of the inwardness of consciousness.

The very concept of an "interior" implies that of an "exterior" – and Weischer revels in blurring the line between these antipodes. Three of the works on exhibit are almost entirely similar. Two rooms are visible, separated by a wall. To the right of the wall is a miniature artwork; to the left of the wall, near the ceiling, is a flourish that varies slightly across each painting. This play on difference and identity, where a single painting divides into three, is reflexively encapsulated in the miniature featured in each work. In each miniature, a woman in traditional Japanese attire is situated in more or less the same position relative to other people in a room. As an item of collage affixed to a painting, this "picture within a picture" is an extension of Weischer's use of difference and repetition, where objects and persons don't so much evolve as reconfigure themselves.

The other two works on exhibit showcase the range of possibility intrinsic to Weischer's methodology. One painting highlights absence; the other is a plenum of presence. A common motif shared by both paintings is that of a white circular orb. In the more minimal painting, this orb exists in isolation. Its meaning is open to interpretation, like a beacon for associations drawn from the viewer's unconscious. In the other, more domestically-oriented painting, the orb is quite obviously a lamp—although rendered in such a way that it retains a kind of numinous presence. The enviroing objects in the room appear uncanny in their assertion of ordinariness. They radiate a furtive life that stems less from what they represent than from the makeshift design imposed on them by the artist's hand.

Text: Jeffrey Grunthaner

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MCM GINZA HAUS I, 6TH FLOOR
JUJIYA BLDG 3-5-4 GINZA
CHUO-KU 104-0061
TOKYO, JAPAN

TOKIO@KOENIGGALERIE.COM
KOENIGGALERIE.COM
@KOENIGGALERIE

OPENING HOURS
WED – SUN 11 AM – 7 PM

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Matthias Weischer (*1973 in Elte, Germany) lives and works in Leipzig, where he completed his master studies at the Hochschule für Grafik und Buchkunst in 2003. He had solo exhibitions at the Gemeentemuseum, The Hague (2014); Museum of Fine Arts Leipzig (2010); Kunsthalle Mainz (2009); Centro de Arte Contemporáneo de Málaga (2009); Neuer Berliner Kunstverein (2007) and Ludwig Forum Internationale Kunst, Aachen (2006). In 2005 Weischer participated in the Prague Biennale and the 51st Venice Biennale. He received the Eduard-Arnhold Scholarship (2017), the Scholarship of the German Academy Rome Villa Massimo, Rome (2007); the Art Prize of the Leipziger Volkszeitung (2005); the Scholarship of the Stiftung Kunstfonds Bonn e.V. (2002) and was a laureate of the August Macke Prize, City of Meschede (2005) and the Rolex Mentor and Master Student Initiative with David Hockney (2004) among others. Works by Weischer are represented in numerous collections, including Weserburg, Bremen; Museum Voorlinden, Wassenaar; Arken Museum of Modern Art; Museum für Moderne Kunst (MMK), Frankfurt am Main; Gemeentemuseum, The Hague; MOCA Grand Avenue, Los Angeles and The Saatchi Gallery, London. His work is the subject of several monographs.

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