

# Galleri Riis

Kristin Nordhøy

*Atonal*

February 29 - April 6, 2024

It is with great pleasure that we announce the exhibition *Atonal* with new paintings by Kristin Nordhøy, the gallery's first with the artist.

*It is almost impossible to see Kristin Nordhøy's work objectively. What I see is inseparable from my reaction to what is there. The work is somewhere in the air, between me and the wall.*

Thomas A. Clark\*

Over the past 15 years, Nordhøy has developed a distinctive and mesmerizing visual language, executed as paintings on canvas, wall paintings, drawings and fine art prints. The works play with the physiology of sight and the psychology of perception, and take the viewer on a visual odyssey where the eye never stops moving. For Nordhøy, atonal soundscapes have been an important element in her creative processes. Through this identification, she is able to infuse her compositions with dissonance. The works fluctuate between the stable and the fluid, through a complex and disciplined work process:

*I apply thin layers of charcoal dust on the canvas, until it becomes as coal black as I can get it. Then I draw up a grid using tape of three different widths in two layers. Then I apply the first coat of oil paint. I have a plan, but the decisions I make along the way are intuitive. The first layer of tape is decisive for the image's overall and oscillating rhythm. The method is challenging because I am constantly working against falling into a logic system. The choices I make are contrary, as if I am breaking up a pattern from the inside.*

The exhibition consists of three large paintings in oil and charcoal from the series *Resonant* from 2023 and a group of smaller paintings from the same series executed with oil on mylar. Furthermore, Nordhøy will create a site specific mural for the exhibition space. This is the first time works from *Resonant* are shown in Norway. Previous works from the series were included in her exhibition *Jangle*, which was shown at Ásmundarsalur in Reykjavik in 2023.

\*Thomas A. Clark (b. 1944) is a Scottish poet.

Together with the visual artist Laurie Clark, he runs the Cairn Gallery in Pittenweem, Scotland.

Kristin Nordhøy was born in Oslo (1977) and has her artistic education from the Oslo National Academy of the Arts, with an MA in visual art in 2009. She lives and works in Oslo and Edinburgh. Her most recent solo exhibitions are "*Jangle*", 2023, Ásmundarsalur, Reykjavik, "*Resonant Field*", 2022, Cairn Gallery, Pittenweem, "*After a Moment*", 2020, Galleri Haaken, Oslo and "*Placed*" 2018, Loock Galerie, Berlin. Her work is included in the collections of Norges Bank Art Collection, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Art Collection, Pro Artibus Foundation, New York Public Library and Erling Neby Collection.