

HAUSER & WIRTH

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Press Release

Michael Raedecker volume

Hauser & Wirth London, Savile Row

23 February – 5 April 2012

Opening: Wednesday 22 February 6 – 8 pm

Hauser & Wirth is delighted to present an exhibition of new works by Michael Raedecker in the North Gallery of Savile Row. Best known for his subtle and unsettling, enigmatic works combining muted tones of paint and embroidery, Raedecker's paintings explore and push the boundaries of his medium. He goes beyond conventional methods of representing formal elements such as texture and perspective. Through his layering of thread, paint and small, yet aggressive punctures to his canvas, Raedecker imparts an unexpected physicality to his two-dimensional works.

In his paintings, Raedecker depicts abstracted scenes of suburban architecture and everyday domestic life. However, instead of using a brush to paint his subject matter, he uses a needle to painstakingly delineate every scene with stitched threads. In Raedecker's new paintings created especially for his exhibition with Hauser & Wirth, he further explores the combination of the art of painting with the craft of embroidery by stitching his painted canvases together. For instance, in one work Raedecker presents a row of bungalows stitched into a large canvas. The canvas is then cut into vertical rectangular strips, rearranged and stitched back together. By literally going through the canvas and deleting fragments, these cuts act as an editing process, which further disorients what began as an already disconcerting scene of suburban life.



Raedecker uses silver paint and thread for the first time in his new paintings. The inclusion of this non-colour takes his overtly grey palette in a previously unexplored direction. Initially, these paintings appear to possess a cold exterior, devoid of emotion; however, on closer inspection, the silver brings to life the painting's hidden details. For Raedecker, silver possesses connotations of modernism and technology, which sit uneasily with the craft and traditional elements at the root of his practice.

Raedecker's subject matter ranges from urban settings and wedding cakes to chandeliers and curtains – items recognisable to every viewer. Despite the familiarity of their subject matter, the paintings do not refer to a traditional theme or genre, but rather their multiple layers of meaning elude a conclusive reading.

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Michael Raedecker was born in Amsterdam, Netherlands in 1963 and currently lives and works in London. He studied at the Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam (1993 – 1994), and at Goldsmiths College, London (1996 – 1997). In 2000, Raedecker was shortlisted for the prestigious Turner Prize. Recent solo exhibitions include 'line-up' which opened at Camden Arts Centre, London, England (2009) and travelled to Gemeentemuseum Den Haag, The Hague, Netherlands (2009) and Carré d'Art – Musée d'Art Contemporain de Nîmes (2010); Hauser & Wirth, London (2007); 'show' at Hauser & Wirth Zürich (2005) and 'forevernevermore', Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg, Austria (2004).



Forthcoming exhibitions:

Rashid Johnson
'RUMBLE'
11 January – 25 February 2012
Hauser & Wirth New York

Joan Mitchell
'The Last Paintings'
3 February – 28 April 2012
Hauser & Wirth London, Piccadilly

Dan Graham
'Rock n' Roll Show. Unrealised Projects for Children and Boutique Architecture'
11 February – 7 April 2012
Hauser & Wirth Zürich

Mary Heilmann
'Visions, Waves and Roads'
23 February – 5 April 2012
Hauser & Wirth London, Savile Row

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scheme
2011
Acrylic and thread on canvas
© Michael Raedecker
Courtesy the artist and Hauser & Wirth
Photo: Peter White

scheme (detail)
2011
Acrylic and thread on canvas
© Michael Raedecker
Courtesy the artist and Hauser & Wirth
Photo: Peter White

monument
2011
Acrylic and thread on canvas
107 x 91 cm / 42 1/8 x 35 7/8 in
© Michael Raedecker
Courtesy the artist and Hauser & Wirth
Photo: Peter White