

André Butzer

Recent Paintings and an Artist Book

Bleibtreustrasse 45, 10623 Berlin

Selected Works from Private Collections

Goethestrasse 2/3, 10623 Berlin

26 January – 3 March 2018

Opening: 26 January, 6-9 pm

Galerie Max Hetzler is pleased to announce the upcoming exhibitions with works by André Butzer in Bleibtreustrasse 45 and Goethestrasse 2/3.

For the first time Galerie Max Hetzler presents such a comprehensive selection of works by André Butzer in two parallel running exhibitions. The gallery space at Bleibtreustrasse displays recent paintings from 2016 and 2017 as well as a new artist book – created in collaboration with Hans Werner Holzwarth (Holzwarth Publications). Whereas the space at Goethestrasse offers an insight into the early work of the artist with paintings from 1999 to 2008, selected from private collections.

Since 2010, Butzer creates the so called “N-Bilder“ (“N-images”). “N” is an artistic measuring conceived by Butzer, which is not a calculable, rational quantity but rather represents a recurring, fertile space. The white, bar-like interstice that clearly determined the buildup of previous “N-Bilder” here is nearly invisible, just vaguely identifiable or almost completely closed as a gap. It seems that the “N-Bilder“ approach a finale, an inevitable target of dissolving the white plane. However, “N” is an infinite quantity, always incomplete and original. Thus, the now blurry, brownish gap does not describe an end of these images but the potential of a recurring beginning and a continuous recreation.

In Butzer's selections of works for Bleibtreustrasse as well as for the artist book a strong parallel can be found. Two works – a more than four meters wide painting (*Untitled (Früchte)*, 2016-2017) and a small drawing on paper – clearly stand out. They depict round, colourful faces, recurring “Friedens-Siemens-children“ as Butzer calls them, risen from their coloured background. Vibrant orange and yellow predominate these two works but also blue, green and violet nuances appear. They seem like a returning to the painter's early motifs and are yet very different to his previous works. Neither distinct brushwork nor pastose paint application or overlapping areas characterise these paintings. Instead, they continue the painterly achievements of the “N-Bilder“ in total devotion to the liveliness of his work, summon their matured imagery from these and develop them further – images as totalities and “fruits“.

While in Goethestrasse selected paintings from private collections introduce into the expressive imagery since 1999, a single new “N-Bild” not only forms the transition to the exhibition at Bleibtreustrasse, but also builds a bridge to the painter's entire creative cosmos (“NASAHEIM“), which resembles a permanent border crossing, thus, experienced from here, determines what makes the work.

„Work, ... holds its ground on its own margin; In order to endure, it constantly calls and pulls itself back from an already-no-more into a still-here.“

- Paul Celan



André Butzer, *Untitled*, 2017



André Butzer, *Vater von Mirinda (Bleed Stumpf)*, 2003

André Butzer (*1973, Stuttgart)

lives and works in Rangsdorf near Berlin. His work was presented in several solo shows at institutions, such as Växjö Konsthall (2017); Bayerisches Armeemuseum, Ingoldstadt and Neue Galerie, Gladbeck (both 2016); Kunstverein Reutlingen (2015); Künstlerhaus. Halle für Kunst und Medien, Graz (2014); kestnergesellschaft, Hanover and Kunsthistorisches Museum - CAC Contemporary Art Club im Theseustempel, Vienna (both 2011); Kunsthalle Nürnberg (2009) and Kunstverein Heilbronn (2004). Butzer participated in numerous important group exhibitions, most recently at Kunsthalle Krems (2017); Deichtorhallen, Hamburg (2016); Kunsthalle Düsseldorf (2015); Kunstmuseum Stuttgart (2014); Kunsthalle Emden and MoCA - Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (both 2013); Museum für Konkrete Kunst, Ingolstadt/Kunstraum München (2012); Kunstmuseum St. Gallen (2011); mumok Wien and ZKM - Museum für Kunst und Medientechnologie, Karlsruhe (both 2008); Carré d'art – Musée d'art contemporain de Nîmes (2005) as well as Kunsthalle Hamburg (2003). Solo exhibitions at IKOB Museum of Contemporary Art in Eupen and at the Museum of the Light, Yoshii Foundation in Hokuto open in 2018.

Further exhibitions and events:

25 January 2018, 6.30 pm

ARTIST TALK: Navid Nuur

Navid Nuur in conversation with Dominic van den Boogerd
Galerie Max Hetzler @ Kurfürstendamm 213

26 January – 3 March 2018

Zhang Wei

Artist Book

Bleibtreustrasse 45, 10623 Berlin, 2. floor

10 February – 31 March 2018

Opening: 10 February, 5-8 pm

Loris Gréaud

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