

Axel Geis
Bon Tempi



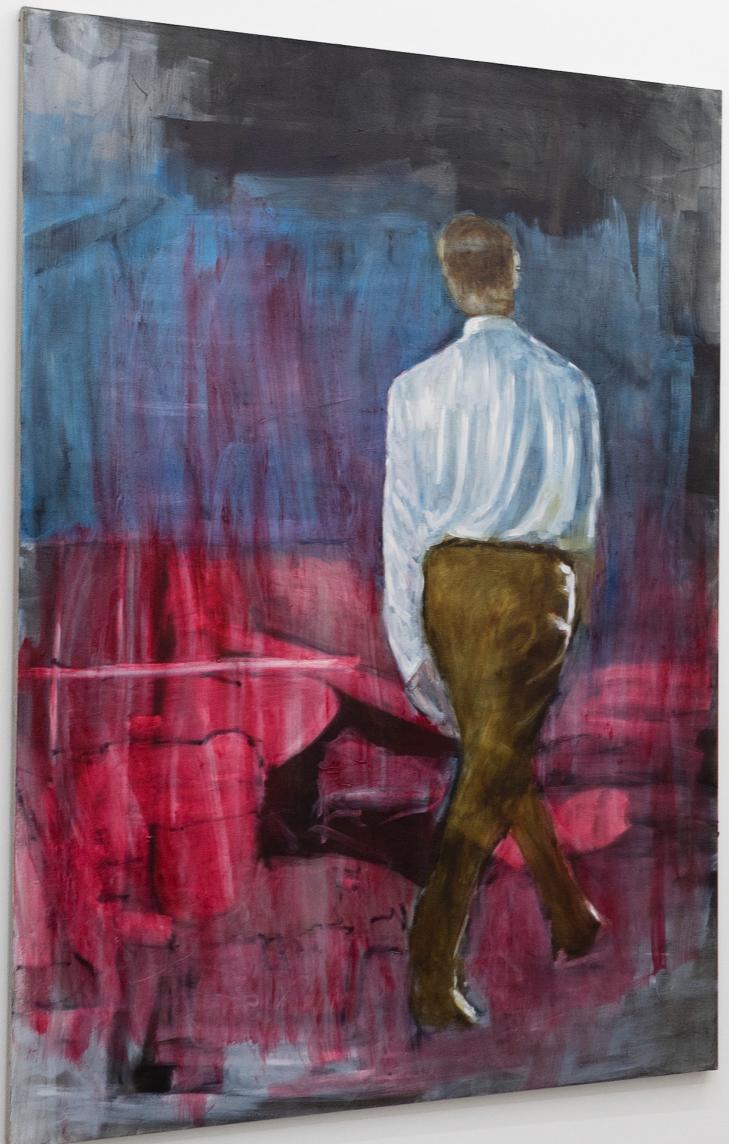
In the first exhibition of 2020, Åplus shows under the title „Bon Tempi“ works of the Berlin painter Axel Geis. The works are on view from 25th January to 22nd February 2020.

The human figure, calm, standing and introverted, is the central motif of Axel Geis' practice. Detached from their surrounding narrative background, the figures, only hinted at in sketches, stand in front of an unevenly monochrome, dark and colourful surface. They are people in everyday and yet enigmatically enraptured constellations and actions that reflect the living in a strange apathy.

The chosen image details, poses and gestures convey an oppressive unreality in which people seem to be lifelessly expressive, fragmentary, isolated, engaged in intimate negotiations with themselves about their existence, their presence or their own situation. They are individuals who argue in intrapersonal negotiations, possibly existential questions of human existence, up to abandonment and death.

As if in a state of twilight, the portrayed people seem to be veiled in an intangible way and seem phantom-like distant. They are less a reproduction in photographic quality, as the figure is often only hinted at in a few layers and brushstrokes. The human body is almost disappearing, transformed, reduced, fragmented, giving the picture openness, dynamism and abstract qualities. Geis usually uses photographs or models from catalogues, film or newspapers to create and formulate his pictures. Pictures of images that always have something strange, unexpected or even remote and contemplative about them, pose a riddle to the viewer. The confrontation with photography is rather a catalyst between the real model and painterly action, between knowledge without seeing and naïve seeing without knowing, a „painterly“ middle course directed towards the object and itself.

Bernd Reiss

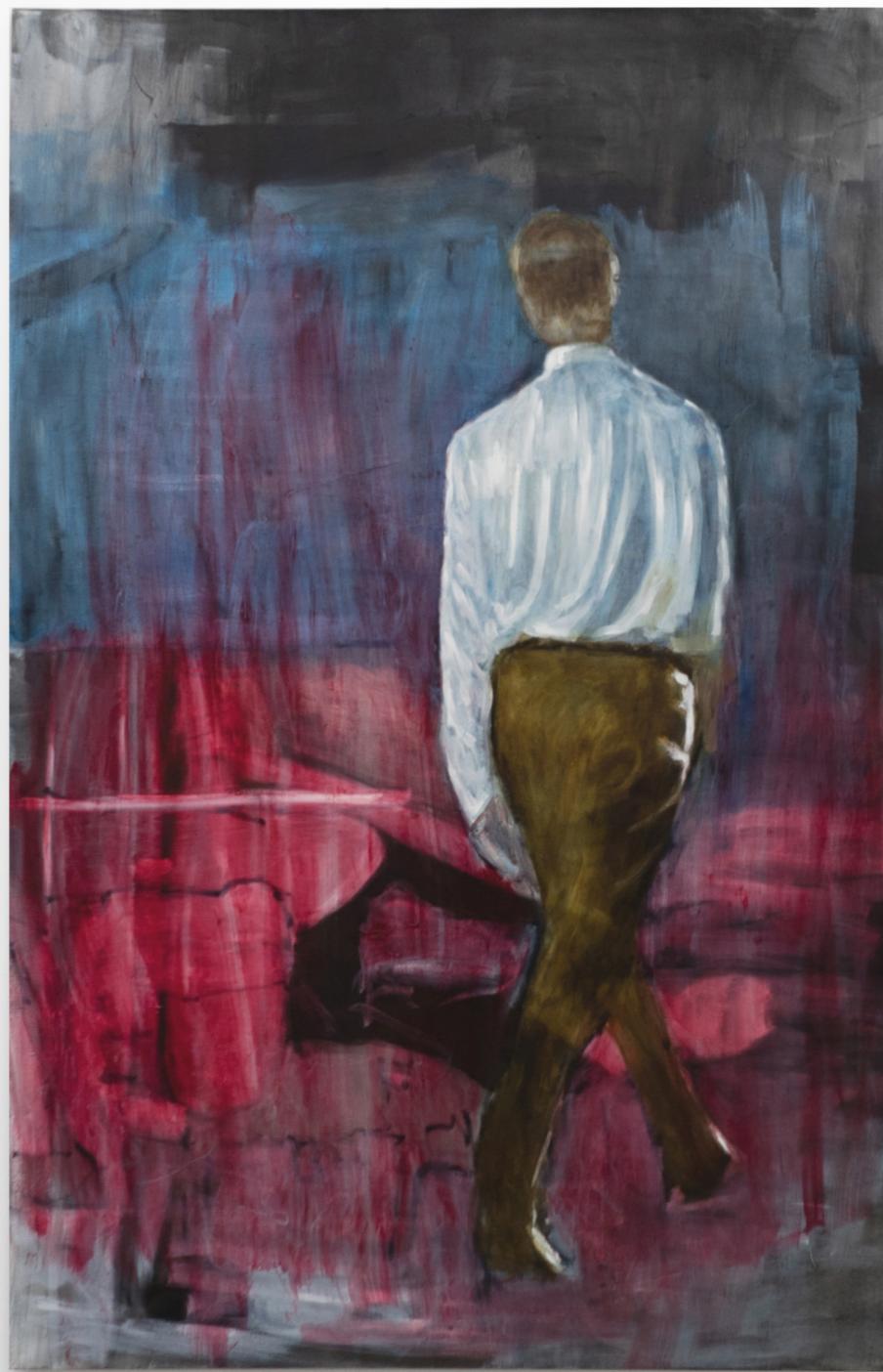




schreitender Mann, 2019
Oil on canvas, 200 x 130 cm



Torero, 2020
Oil on canvas, 170 x 100 cm





Amerikanerin, 2020
Oil on canvas, 190 x 110 cm



Junge, 2020
Oil on canvas, 230 x 135 cm





Mädchen aus Flandern, 2014
Oil on canvas, 155 x 230 cm

Additional works



Frau mit Flügel, 2020
Oil on canvas, 200 x 300 cm



Boy, 2019
Oil on canvas, 90 x 60 cm



ernster Junge, 2019
Oil on canvas, 50 x 50 cm

CV

Axel Geis

*1970 Limburg/Lahn, Germany
1990 – 1991 Akademie der Bildenden Künste Karlsruhe
1992 – 2002 Kunsthochschule Mainz

Solo exhibitions (selected)

2016
Alexander, Weißfrauen Diakoniekirche, Frankfurt/Main

2015
Zauberberg, Avlskarl Gallery, Copenhagen

2014
Chandelier, Galerie Wentrup, Berlin
Persona, Gallery Baton, Seoul, South Korea

2013
Axel Geis, Kunstverein Dillingen
Deception – Axel Geis & Philip Grözinger, Laden für Nichts, Leipzig

2012
Serendipity, Avlskarl Gallery, Copenhagen

2011
L'infinito, Galerie Wentrup, Berlin

2010
Saint Hill, Avlskarl Gallery, Copenhagen

2009
Die Wildgänse kommen, Galerie Wentrup, Berlin

2008
Mitchell Innes & Nash, New York
Galerie Almine Rech, Paris
Kunsthalle Mannheim

2007
Andretti, Galerie Karlheinz Meyer, Karlsruhe

2006
Modena, Galerie Wentrup, Berlin

2005
Flandern, Galerie Karlheinz Meyer, Karlsruhe

2004
Die Übergabe, Galerie Wentrup, Berlin

Group exhibitions (selected)

2016
Spekulativer Realismus – Peter Doig, Axel Geis, Malgosia Jankowska, Melora Kuhn, Maik Wolf, Neue Galerie, Gladbeck
Bühnenreif 1. Akt (1900 – 2016), Arp Museum Bahnhof Rolandseck, Remagen
Ural Vision Gallery, Budapest

2015

Black Bandits. Lützow-Befreiungskriege-Napoleon-Waterloo, Haus am Lützowplatz, Berlin
Salon der Gegenwart 2015, salon der Gegenwart, Hamburg
Um Fleisch auf die Nerven zu bekommen!, Kunstverein
Familie Montez, Frankfurt/Main
Paperworlds, Buchheim Museum der Phantasie, Sammlung Buchheim, Bernried

2014

Freundschaften, Møller Witt, Aarhus
Drive the Change, 100plus, Zurich
Paperworlds, me Collectors Room, Berlin
Loitering With Intent – Achtzehn Positionen Aktueller Malerei, Galerie Börgmann, Mönchengladbach
Wurzeln weit mehr Aufmerksamkeit widmen, Galerie der HfBK Saar – Hochschule für Bildende Künste
Saar, Saarbrücken
The Cambridge Rules, Jochen Hempel Berlin

2013

Masterworks, Portland Art Museum
Exhibition of the collection Florence et Daniel Guerlain, Centre Pompidou, Paris
Weltenschöpfer. Richard Wagner, Max Klinger, Karl May, Museum der bildenden Künste Leipzig
Karl May: Schut und Feder, Laden für Nichts, Leipzig
Alles Wasser, Galerie Mikael Andersen, Kopenhagen
Cinque Garzoni II – Piccola Germania, Cinque Garzoni, Venedig

2012

Eros und Thanatos, Leipzig
Collection Juan and Patricia Vergez, Buenos Aires
Der arge Weg der Erkenntnis, kuratiert v. Oliver Mark, Gloria Berlin
I am a Berliner, Tel Aviv Museum/The Helena Rubinstein Pavilion for Contemporary Art and Convento
Carmelo, Sassari, Italy

2011

Oceanic Circle (Axel Geis, Olivia Berckemeyer, Uwe Henneken, Anselm Reyle, Frank Nitsche),
Showroom Überseequartier, Hamburg
Lysets Land III (Axel Geis, Sergej Jensen, Sterling Ruby, Gregor Hildebrandt, Florian Meisenberg),
Skagen Projekt, Skagen, Denmark
1st Biennale of Painting – I am a Berliner HDLU/ Croatian Biennale, Mestrovic Pavilion, Zagreb
Arbeiten aus dem Bleistiftgebiet (Saadane Afif, Adam McEwen, Bruce Nauman, Carl Andre, Alicja Kwade et al, curated by Gregor Hildebrandt), van Horn, Düsseldorf
Paint, Pigment and Colour (Matt Connors, Axel Geis, Uwe Hennecken, Michael Kalki, Ryan McLaughlin, Stefan Müller, Bernd Ribbeck, Wawa Tokarski), Avlskarl Gallery, Copenhagen
Endless Summer, Galerie Wentrup, Berlin
HotSpot Berlin. Eine Momentaufnahme, Georg Kolbe Museum, Berlin

2010

Blickkontakte – Niederländische Portraits
des 17. Jahrhunderts im Dialog mit Kunst der Gegenwart, Anhaltische Gemäldegalerie, Dessau
Love Kills. Betting on the muse. Frankfurt/Main
Schwarz, Märkisches Museum Witten, Witten
Einraumhaus, Mannheim (mit Gregor Hildebrandt)
Step In The Arena, Sonderwerkstatt, Saarbrücken
Waking the Dead, Autocenter, Berlin
The Berlin Box, CCA Kunsthalle Andratx, Mallorca
The Berlin Box, Nymphia Projects Berlin
Hypernatural, Kunstcampus, Berlin
Hot Stuff, Avlskarl Fine Arts, Copenhagen

2009

Zeigen. Ein Audioguide durch Berlin, Temporäre Kunsthalle, Berlin
Berlin meets Vienna, Salon Österreich, Vienna
Christmas group show, Galleri Christina Wilson, Copenhagen
Strahl Dich aus! Deutsche Kunst nach 1970, Samuelis Baumgarde Galerie, Bielefeld
Schickeria-High Society, BDA-Ausstellungsraum, Braunschweig
Große Herbstausstellung, Kwadrat, Berlin
cargo manifest/cargo vision, Autocenter, Berlin
Roots, Galerie Wentrup, Berlin
Menschenbilder 1620/2009 – Zeitgenössische Bildnisse begegnen alten niederländischen Portraits,
Museum Abtei Liesborn, Wadersloh
Podrostock, SOX, Berlin
Altes Europa, Schickeria, Berlin

2008

Nomenus, Dactyl Foundation, New York
Berlin, ..., Kwadrat, Berlin
Von Assig bis Zipp, Frisch, Berlin
Pádraig Timoney – Axel Geis, Almine Rech Gallery, Paris
London Calling, Galerie Wentrup – Temporary Space, London

2007

Euro-Centric, Part 1: New European Art from the Rubell Family Collection, Rubell Family Collection, Miami
XXS – Israeli and International artists, Sommer Contemporary Art, Tel Aviv
Null Bock, Schickeria, Berlin
Malkunst 2, Schloss Plüschow Mecklenburgisches Künstlerhaus, Plüschow
Niveaularm, Kunstraum Innsbruck, Innsbruck
Nacht Der Süßen Bienen, Schickeria, Berlin
100 Jahre Kunsthalle Mannheim, Städtische Kunsthalle Mannheim, Mannheim

Public and selected private collections

Kunsthalle Mannheim
Saarland Museum Saarbrücken
Musée National d'Art Moderne Centre Pompidou Paris
Palm Springs Art Museum
Rubell Family Collection, Miami
Collection Susan and Michael Hort, New York
Olbricht Collection, Berlin
Pat and Juan Vergez Collection, Buenos Aires
Doron Sebbag Art Collection, Tel Aviv
Sammlung Jil Sander
Sammlung Gloria von Thurn und Taxis
Collection Sherry and Joel Mallin, New York
Collection Dean Valentine, Los Angeles
The Speyer Family Collection, New York
Collection Robert and Renée Drake, Wassenaar
Collection Steve and Chiara Rosenblum, Paris
Collection Alexejew Brandl, Berlin

