

Florian Köhler & Robert Schwark
Leben in einer Welt ohne Verlangen

Å+

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Nowadays, existence is demanding from essence to take a stand, to act, in order to preserve it.

We fail to imagine our existence in a world without our memory. We fail to imagine our life in a world with us not having desires. No doubt, we are carved by our cravings. While struggling with imagining the prehistory, we also fail to foresee our future. We are hindered to look in both directions of time. Our presence has become our limbo. And amid the seasonal respiration, I refuse to accept the brevity of life, and try to enjoy the lasting moment, even if only temporarily.

Florian Köhler and Robert Schwark are guest artists in the current exhibition at Åplus Gallery. The title of their duo show resembles a riddle with two answers. Like a coin tossed in the air, as it lands, the determined outcome of any side will lay bare a disquieting outlook – head: a picture of an undesirable dystopia at the beginning of total submersion, tail: a place cramped with likely anaesthetised inhabitants, with no wishes and aspirations.

Having seen both revelations, the artists respond similarly. Their artistic practice is the very picture of two archeologists on the site, with hands getting dirty while collecting, noting, exhaustively securing the artefacts, documenting time and interpreting their findings.

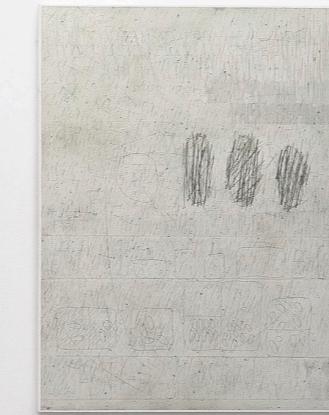
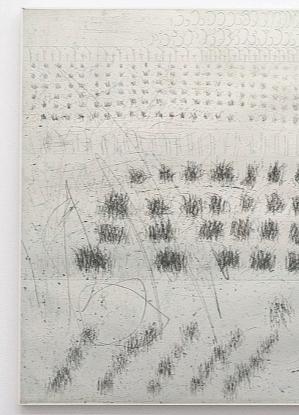
The titles of Robert Schwark works seem to confirm this assumption – Golden Ending, three times wrong one time right, Field Attempts, Stones epitomise his efforts and confrontation with the case. The delicate linear grooves have been scratched scrupulously out of a layer of paint on canvas. Schwark's new paintings remind us of fieldwork sketches, mere replicas of inscribed clay tablets. Systems and forms of notation hold a central position in his oeuvre, whereas the questions on the original and copy, on the archetype and model strike with their prevalence.

The perception of Florian Köhler on the other hand, has the qualities of a rather struggling world. The artist needn't to go far to carry out his diggings, he takes his source material – the litter left behind by the excessively consuming society – from the immediate vicinity. In his studio Köhler fuses and casts containers or packages transforming them further into artworks which, however appealing to the eye, look more like indicators of a civilisation's collapse.

If archeology is the systematic description of the remains from an ancient period, how to encompass and what to call the artistic undertakings of these two artists? I'd like to coin to their method the term "anarechology" and reflect upon their observations, even if only temporarily. The good news of the present day is, the social sensitisation is happening increasingly, at every corner.

Text: Majla Zeneli

Installation view: „Leben in einer Welt ohne Verlangen“, Åplus, Berlin, 2020





Florian Köhler
Vor die Wand 2020
Concrete, ceramics, 30 x 54 x 16 cm



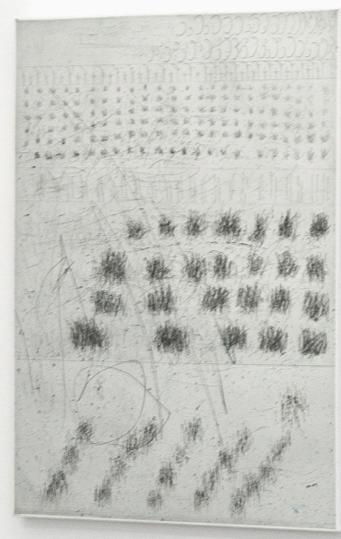
Florian Köhler
SOFT FEELING 2020
Concrete, 48,5 x 42 x 17,5 cm

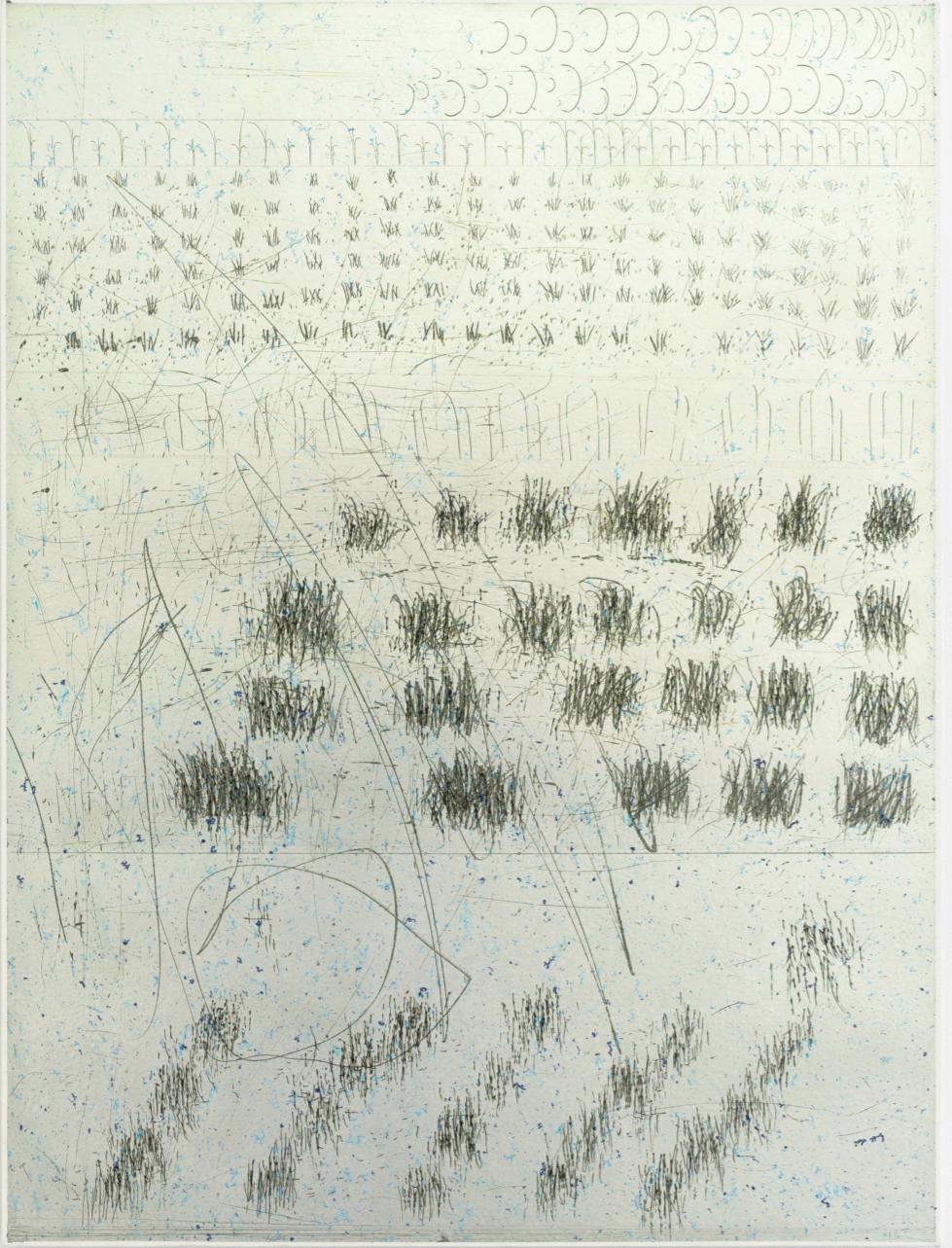


Florian Köhler
OHNE TITEL 2019
Concrete, 31,5 x 40 x 18,5 cm

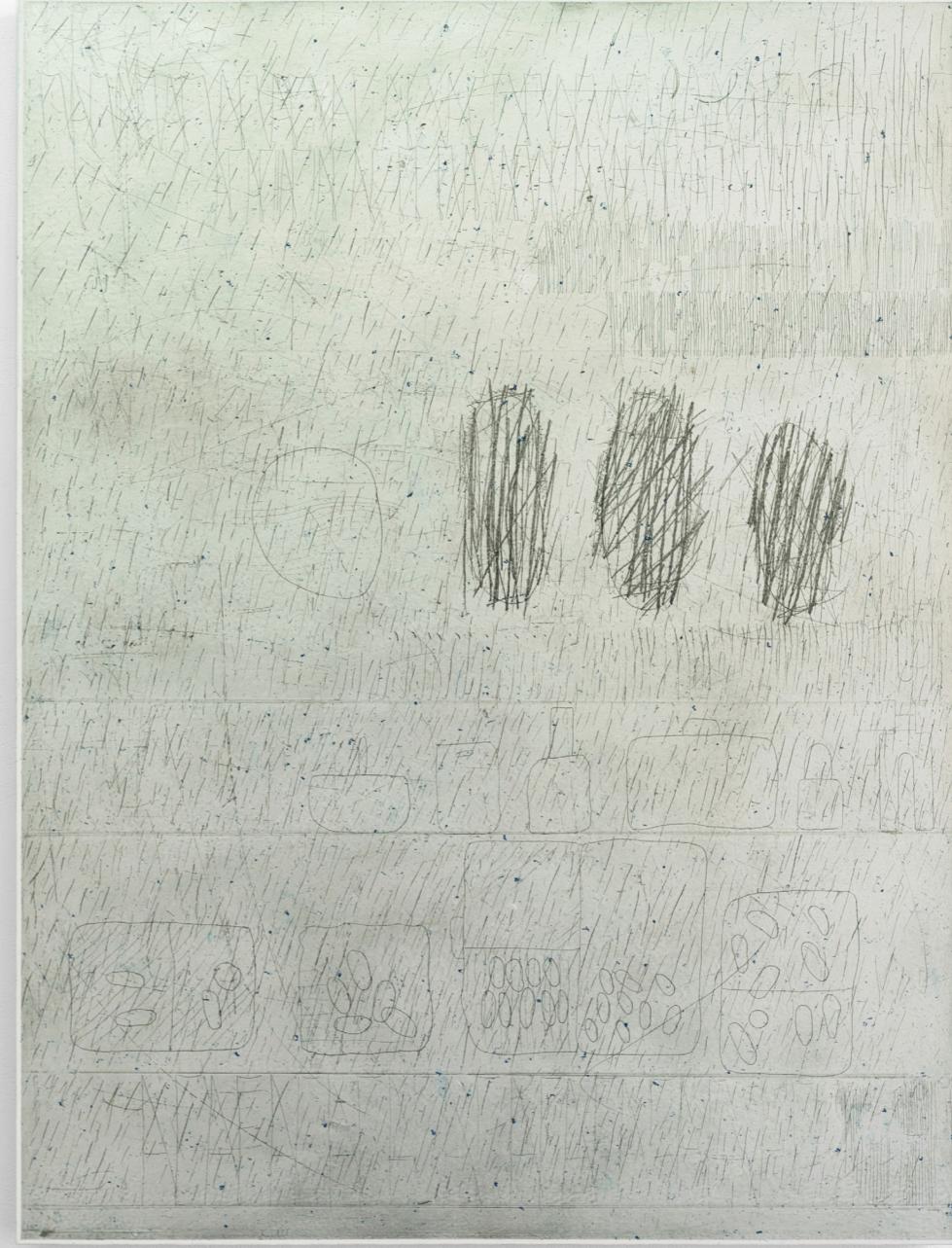


Florian Köhler
Kunscheln 2019
Plaster, 30 x 23 x 10,5 cm

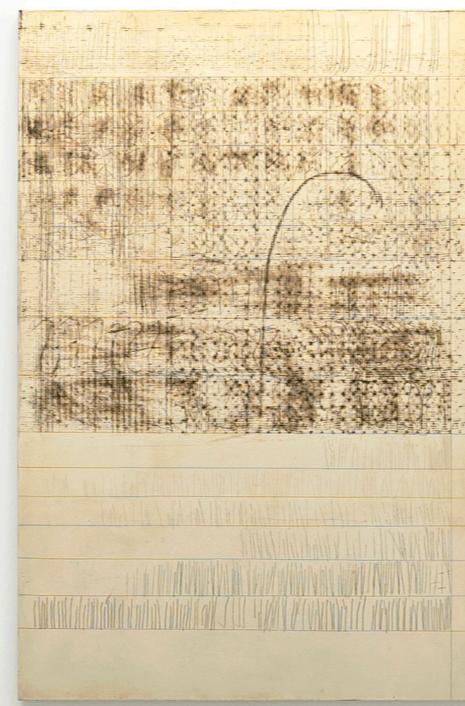
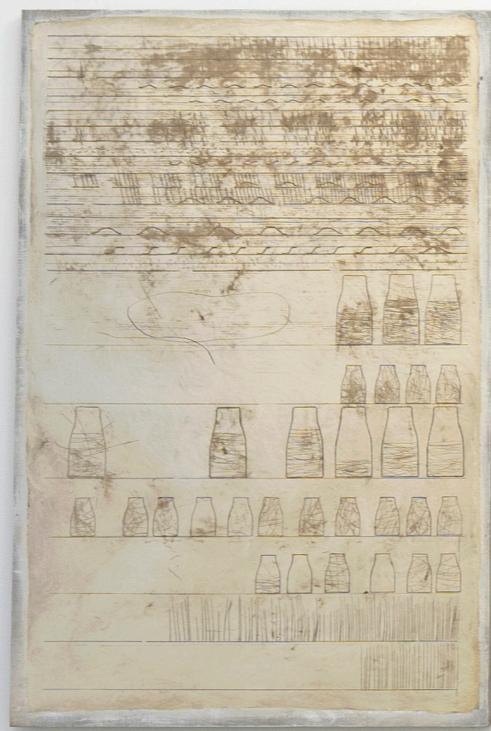


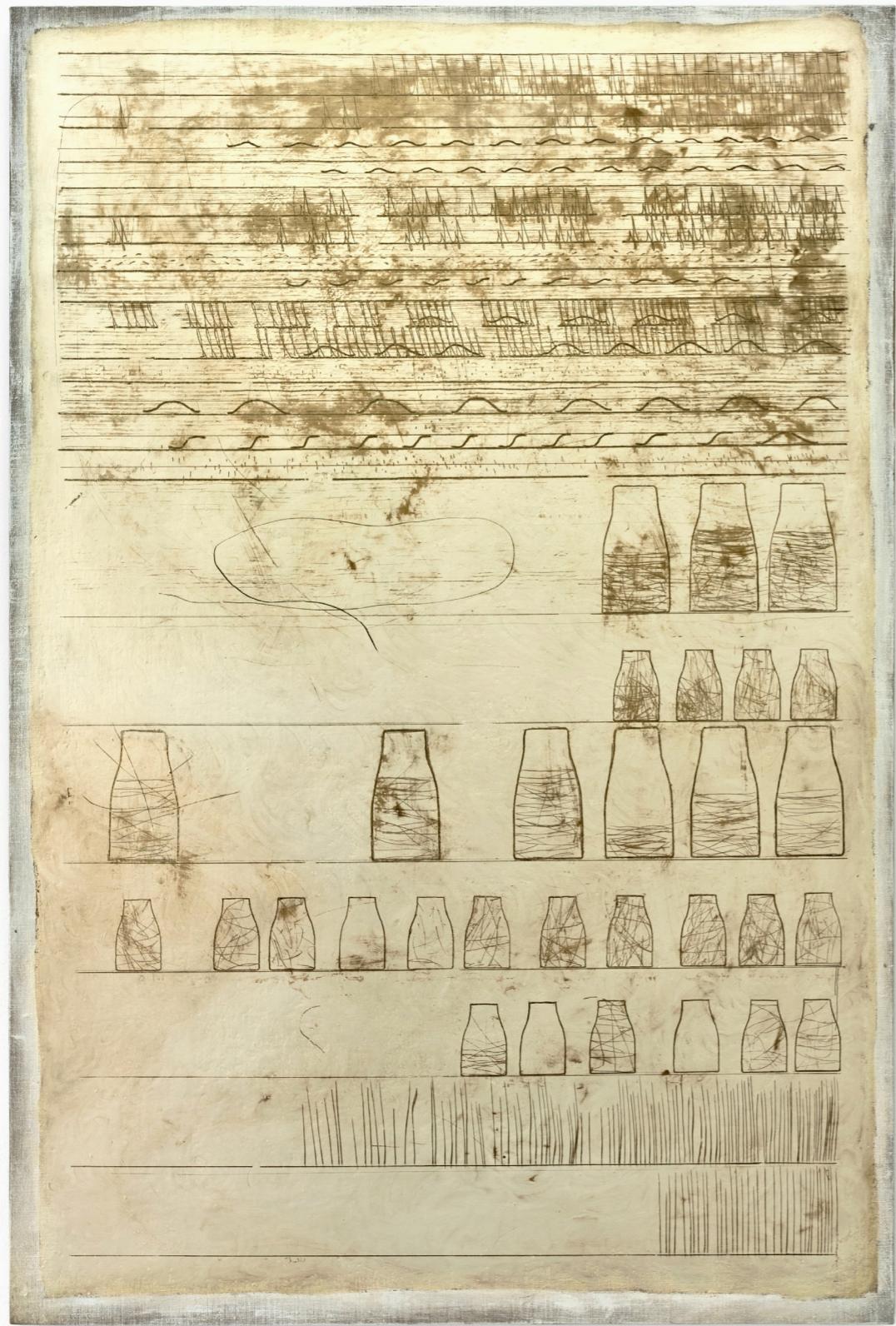


Robert Schwark
Feldversuch, 2020
Pigment, laquer, oil on canvas, 80 x 63

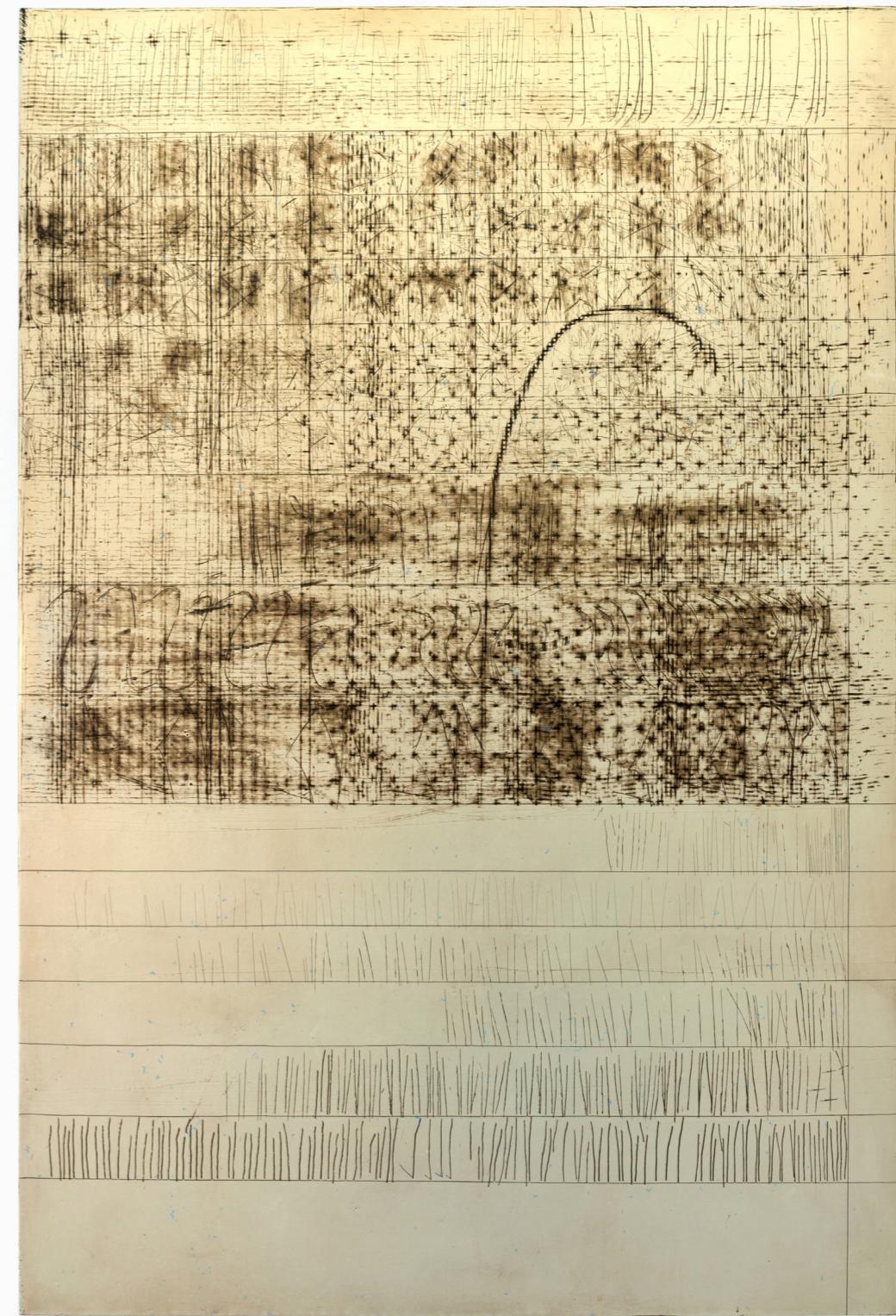


Robert Schwark
dreimalfalscheinmalrichtig, 2020
Pigment, laquer, oil on canvas, 83 x 63 cm

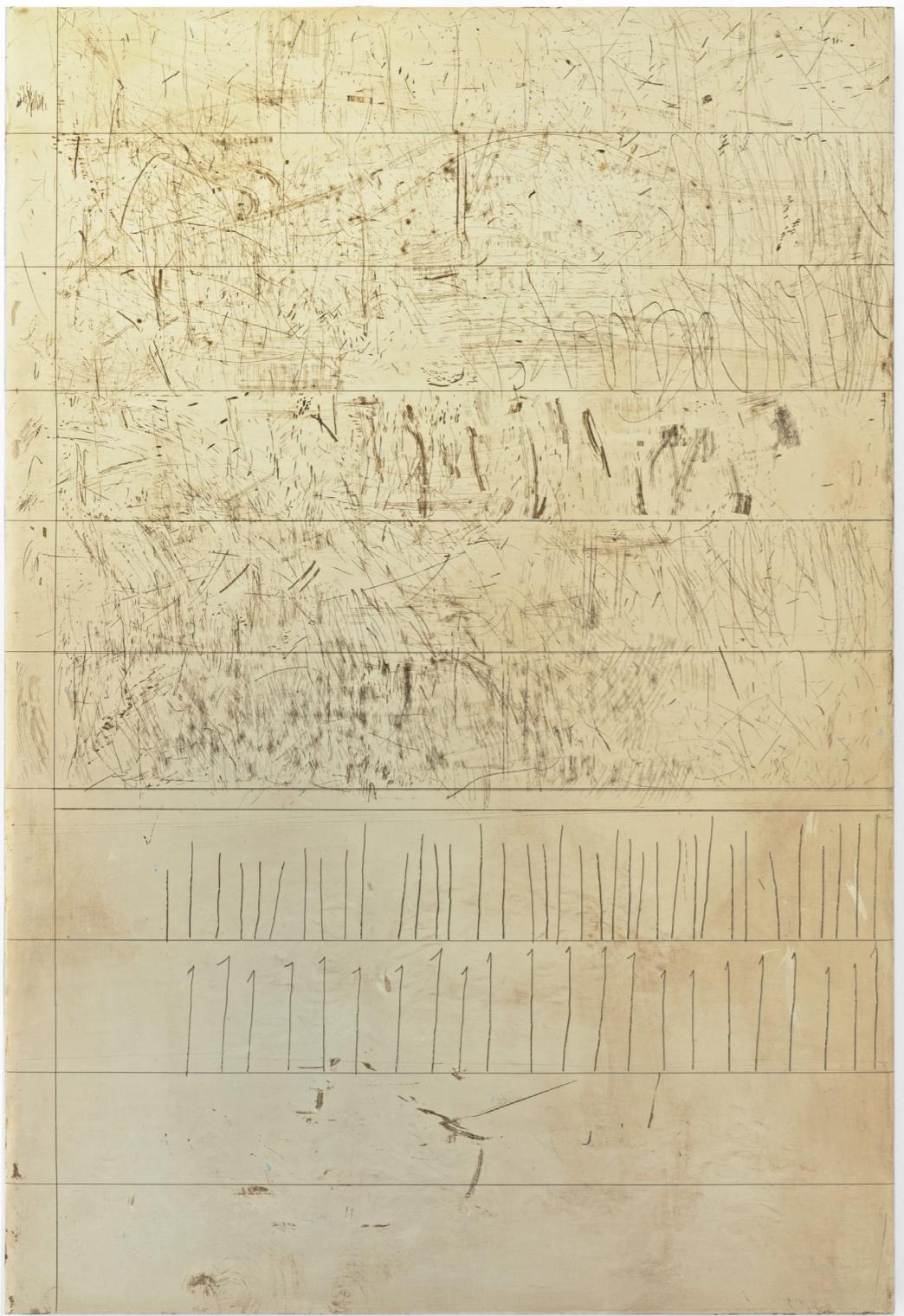




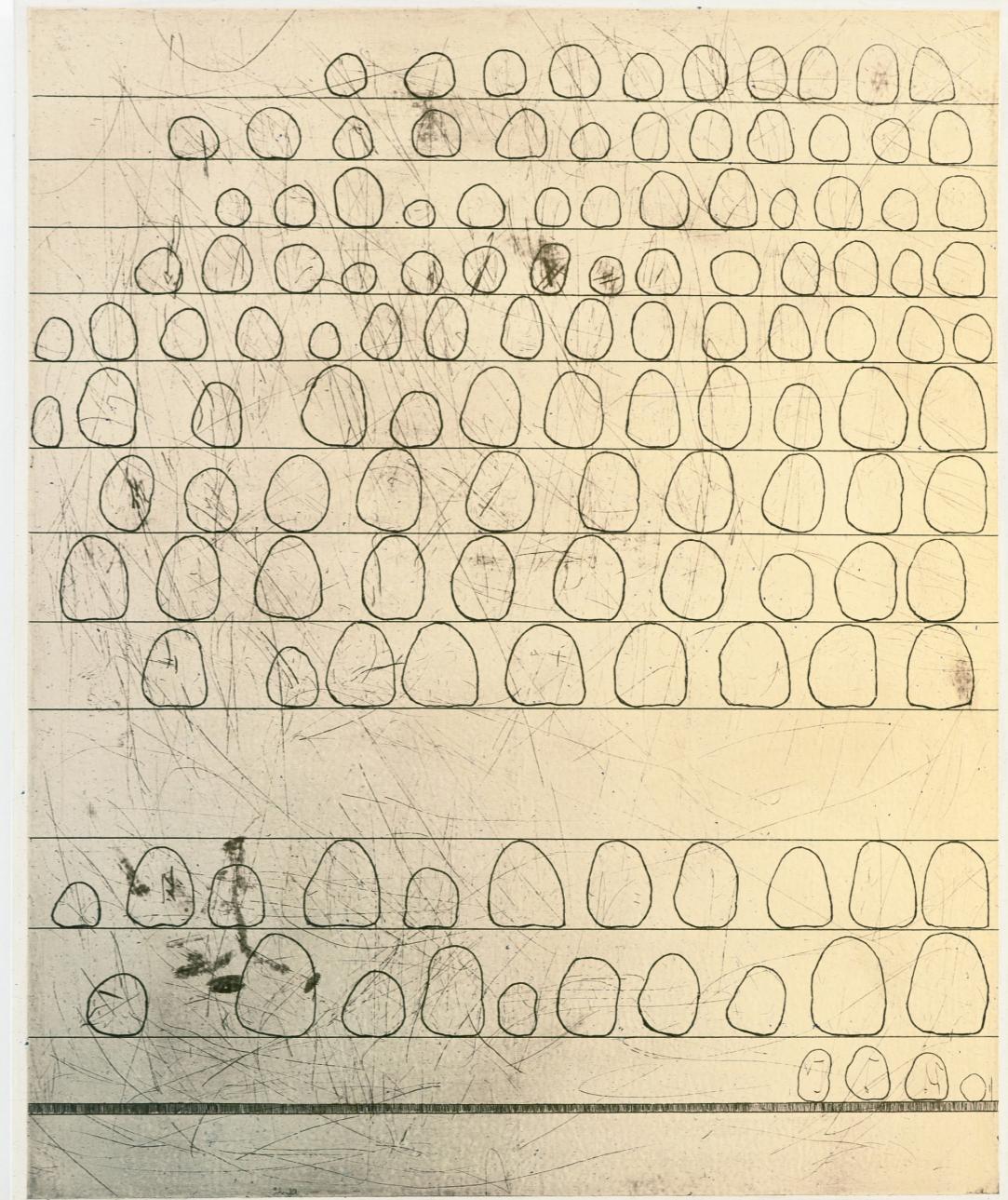
Robert Schwark
Nach dem Einatmen, das Ausatmen, 2020
Pigment, laquer, oil on canvas, 125 x 83,5 cm



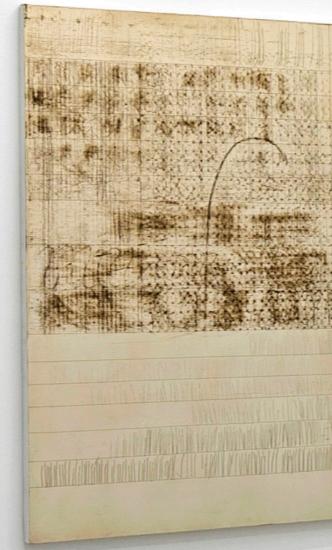
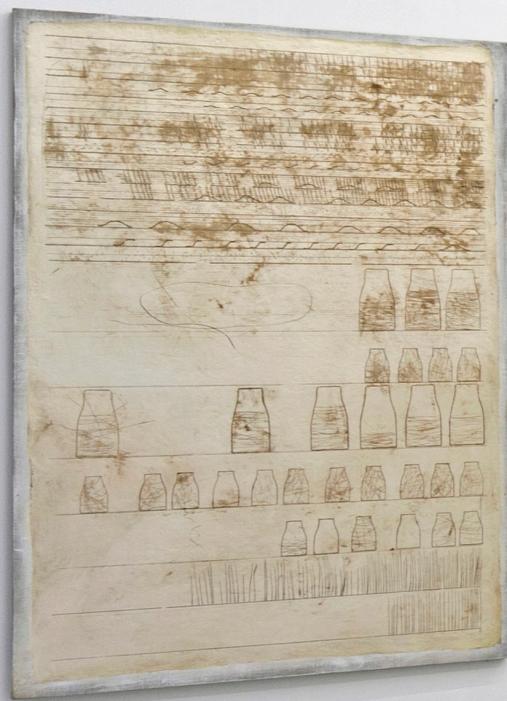
Robert Schwark
Goldenes Ende, 2020
Pigment, laquer, oil on canvas, 120,5 x 80,5 cm



Robert Schwark
Menschliche Lust, 2020
Pigment, laquer, oil on canvas, 120,5 x 80,5 cm



Robert Schwark
Steine., 2020
Pigment, laquer, oil on canvas, 56,5 x 46,5 cm





Florian Köhler
Duplo 2020
Concrete, 22 x 29 x 7 cm



Florian Köhler
Du hast mir die Angst genommen 2020
Concrete, 22,5 x 26,5 x 14 cm

CV's



Florian Köhler
Tut mir leid 2020
Concrete, wood, 62 x 55 x 28 cm

Florian Köhler

*1973 in Karlsruhe
lives and works in Karlsruhe

2001 – 2006 Freie Kunst, Staatliche Akademie der Bildenden Künste Karlsruhe
2006 – 2007 Meisterschüler, Staatliche Akademie der Bildenden Künste Karlsruhe

Grants & Prizes

2019 Werner Stober Award, 2019
2013 6-month Fellowship at Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris
2008 Grant, Kunststiftung Baden-Württemberg
2007 Travel Scholarship, Staatlichen Akademie der Bildenden Künste Karlsruhe

Exhibitions

2020
,Leben in einer Welt ohne Verlangen“, mit Robert Schwark, Åplus, Berlin
,Tschau Agip“, Städtische Galerie Karlsruhe (S)

2018
,Deltabeben“, u.a. mit Barbara Sophie Nägle, Kunstverein Ludwigshafen
,ich hab Dir vor Jahren schon gesagt ...“, Johannes Esper und Florian Köhler, V8, Karlsruhe

2017
,Stars & Stripes“, Artist in Residence, Panzerhalle Mannheim
,Kisten & Ascher“, Florian Köhler und Henry Staschik, Why Yes, Karlsruhe
,Quittung“, Einraumhaus, Mannheim (S)
,Nischenhain“, Simultanhalde, Köln

2016
,Introducing: Cabinet of Kaput Magazine's new weekly art section“, Gold & Beton, Köln

2015
,No Reading no cry!“, mit Mark Pezinger Verlag, Museum of the City of Skopje

2014
,Open Studio“, Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris

2013
,Regionale 13: Von den Rändern her“, Kunsthalle Palazzo, Liestal
,Gegenwärtig Abwesend“, L6, Freiburg im Breisgau
,Under Construction“, Kunstraum Riehen
,8 Jahre V8“, V8, Karlsruhe

2012
,Do It Again-Repetition, Reflection and Repulsion in Contemporary Art“, .HBC, Berlin

2011
,Florian Köhler“, V8, Karlsruhe (S)

2010
,Der Unaufhaltsame Aufstieg von Draufgängern und Flaschen“, Städtische Galerie Karlsruhe
,I Feel Unreal“, Forgotten Bar, Berlin
,Five Platonic Solids“, halfhouse, Barcelona
,Sie taten nicht was sie wußten“, V8, Karlsruhe

Robert Schwark

*1983 in Burgstädt
lives and works in Berlin

2004 – 2010 Hochschule für Grafik und Buchkunst (HGB), Leipzig
2011 - 2014 Master der Hochschule für Grafik und Buchkunst (HGB), Leipzig

Exhibitions

2020
,Leben in einer Welt ohne Verlangen“, mit Florian Köhler, Åplus, Berlin

2018
Originale, Åplus, Berlin (S)

2016
InUnordnung - Rundgaenger, Frankfurt am Main
Klassentreffen - Kunsthalle der Sparkasse, Leipzig (C)

2015
Object is Meditation and Poetry - Grassimuseum für angewandte Kunst, Leipzig
win/win - Ankäufe der Kulturstiftung Sachsen, Halle 14 Spinnerei, Leipzig
Werkschau - Werkschauhalle Spinnerei, Leipzig

2014
Golden Masters - Galerie Hochschule für Grafik und Buchkunst, Leipzig
C - Muck, Leipzig (S)

Kein Spass, Galerie M2A, Dresden (C)

RRR - HGB, Leipzig (S)

2013
Frisch gepresst - Delikatessenhaus, Leipzig
Copy&Repeat - Kunsthalle der Sparkasse, Leipzig (C)

Denkmaschinen - Heiligenkreuzerhof, Wien (C)

2012
Copy&Repeat - BKS-Garage, Copenhagen
New Prints 2012/Summer - IPCNY International Print Center New York
Intercity-d-52.raum für zeitgenössische kunst, Düsseldorf

2011
Hochdruck an der HGB - Galerie der Hochschule für Grafik und Buchkunst, Leipzig (C)

Leipziger Jahresausstellung - Werkschauhalle Spinnerei, Leipzig

out of Chemnitz - Galerie Weise, Chemnitz

2010
Schnittstelle Druck - HGB Leipzig / Museum der bildenden Künste Leipzig

100 Sächsische Grafiken - Neue Sächsische Galerie, Chemnitz (C)

Atlas- Hoch+Partner - Galerie für Hochdruck, Leipzig

The Black Door Files - Black Door Istanbul, Istanbul

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