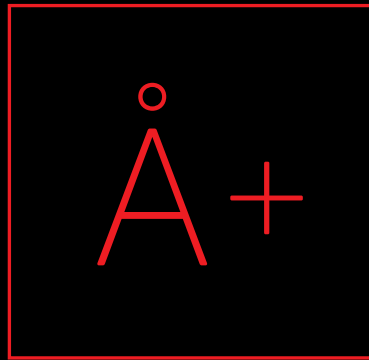


Ralf Dereichs
Zy



Dear Ralf,

Yesterday, we talked about a lot of things. We talked about silent knowledge, 18th Century silhouettes, the complicated relationship many painters have with their medium (because of Barnett Newman and the others, authenticity, appropriation, the painting as an investment, and so on), and the old Superman movie where the evil villains are being trapped in a two-dimensional space. What a horror!

Most of all we talked about beginnings.

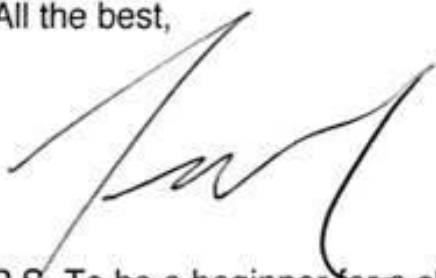
You told me how you, during a period, removed as much as possible from your paintings. You wanted to find your own point of departure, your own way of painting. In these reductionist works, there is nothing but backgrounds and undefinable, but very distinct, blue shapes in various sizes in the upper left corners. They are not mere brush strokes, but not complete figures either.

When you showed me these works, I said that it looked a bit as if someone just had begun to paint a wall. Someone, who is not a craftsman, not a professional, you added. We laughed.

Ok, this was just a joke, but I think there is at least some truth in it. The opposite of the professional is the amateur, or the beginner; someone who is doing something with curiosity, for the joy of doing it. In that sense, I think you are a beginner. A professional beginner, I must add, since you obviously know how to make the joy of beginning remain on your canvases.

By the way, I can't stop smiling, when I look at your new works.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jens', written in a fluid, cursive style.

P.S. To be a beginner for a short while is easy, but to continue to be a beginner must be one of the most difficult things there is.







NoT136 / 2017 / oil on linen / 195 x 170 cm



NoT137 / 2017 / oil on linen / 195 x 165 cm











NoT139 / 2017 / oil on linen / 195 x 165 cm

Ralf Dereich

*1976 in Bad Kreuznach, Germany
lives and works in Berlin

2001-03 Study of Fine Art , Art Academy, Mainz
2003-05 Study of Fine Art , AdBK, Munich
2012 Lectureship, Art Academy, Mainz
2014 Lectureship, Art Academy, Mainz

solo exhibitions

2017
Å+, Berlin, Germany

2014
Lexicon of Art , Galerie Kai Hölzner, Berlin, Germany
Berthold Pot t Gallery, Cologne, Germany

2013
Freel , Cruise&Callas, Berlin, Germany

2012
Berthold Pot t Gallery, Cologne, Germany
Diet , Koffer, Berl in, Germany

2011
Ralf Dereich, Deutsche Bundesbank, Frankfurt, Germany
Playing loose, Berthold Pot t Gallery, Cologne, Germany
Camel toe, Sorry We're Closed, Brussels, Belgium
2Pack, Jacky Strenz Galerie, Frankfurt, Germany

2010
amuse, Cruise&Callas, Berlin, Germany
Im Preservat , Ringstube, Mainz, Germany

2009

Oi lcooking, Cruise&Callas, Berlin, Germany

2008

Neukölln, Wiensowski&Harbord, Berlin, Germany

Ralf Dereich, Privatgalerie, Munich, Germany

2007

View from my window, Kunstklub, Berlin, Germany

2006

Zwei Nasen tanken Super, Hildebrandt&Kwade, Berlin, Germany

Die Supernasen, MPPZ, Munich, Germany

MUC International , Petuelpark, Munich, Germany

VolkLore, Alm, Munich, Germany

exhibitions

2016

Kunstverein Konstanz, Weiden, Germany

Kunstverein Weiden, Konstanz, Germany

2015

VOLUMES, Berthold Pott Gallery, Cologne, Germany

Politics Of Surface, Berthold Pott Gallery, Cologne, Germany

2014

Wo ist hier, Kunstverein Reutlingen, Reutlingen, Germany

STUDIO LIFE, Gerhart Hofland, Amsterdam, Netherlands

suckstract , Städtische Galerie Remscheid, Remscheid, Germany

Im Dschungel , Kunstverein Familie Montez, Frankfurt, Germany

2013

abstract on paper, Berthold Pott Gallery, Cologne, Germany

dark friday, Melina Volkmann, Berlin, Germany

suckstract , Projektraum Kunstquartier Bethanien, Berlin, Germany

popsicle, Projektraum Kunstquartier Bethanien, Berlin, Germany

2012

Rundblick 2012, Kunstverein Kirschenpflücker, Cologne, Germany
Homeland I , Berthold Pott Gallery, Cologne, Germany
Not even for a million dollars, Linn Lühn, Dusseldorf, Germany
Art ist Of The Gallery, Cruise&Callas, Berlin, Germany
A House Is Not A Home, Sorry We're Closed, Brussels, Belgium

2011

Geste, Zufall , Prozess, Nosbaum&Reding, Luxembourg
Hotspot Berlin, Georg-Kolbe-Museum, Berlin, Germany
25+25, Kunstverein Wilhelmshöhe, Ettlingen, Germany
Verbrechen & Bild, Städtische Galerie, Villingen-Schwenningen, Germany

2010

Abstract , The Forgotten Bar Project , Berlin, Germany
Squanto's cold turkey, Deathanddada, Glasgow, UK
Extrakt I , Vittorio Manalese, Berlin, Germany
Wenn die Nacht am tiefsten, Stern Pissarro Gallery, London, UK
Ein Fest für Boris - 1. Akt , Vittorio Manalese, Berlin, Germany
Gegen die Form, Informell 1954-2010, Cruise&Callas, Berlin, Germany

2009

Schickeria - High Society, BDA-show room, Braunschweig, Germany
Bank of Eden, Whitechapel , Berlin, Germany

2008

Beibender, Stephanie Bender, Munich, Germany
First Select ion, Cruise&Callas, Berlin, Germany

2007

La Boum I I I , Galery Zoya, Warsaw, Poland

2006

The New Baroque, Galerie Nice & Fit , Berlin, Germany

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