

Baronian

Press release

731 Zeedijk
8300 Knokke

01.07 - 30.07.2023

Opening

Saturday 01.07.2023
4 - 8 pm

Summer in Knokke

Gallery Baronian is pleased to host a group exhibition in July in Knokke. This exhibition entitled *Summer in Knokke*, will bring together several artists of the gallery and others who each of them evoke a feeling of summer, all through a different way.

Alain Biltreyst's abstractions show the artist's continued interest in the visual language of our urban environment. Fascinated by the vivid functionality of commercial signage — typography, logos, commercial graphics — and their struggle for our attention, Biltreyst's works are liberated from narrative constraint to form a purely visual and material experience. Biltreyst succeeds in referring to earlier historical abstractions and at the same time in cataloguing his world.

Seyni Awa Camara's creations are a revelation of the dramatic nature of her intimate thoughts: an animist imagination inspired by nature, local tales that revolves around the themes of motherhood and sexuality. The final process of firing the clay is carried out according to an ancestral method; the sculptures are first fired over a wood fire for more than three hours, before being immersed in their hot state in a liquid obtained from putrefied pods of trees. This final stage lends the sculptures their color and robust quality showing us the heath of Senegal.

The playful interaction of Lionel Estève's works with space, colors and sensory perception is the result of a meticulous research using a wide range of materials. In this exhibition, Estève presents among others the work *Papier de Provence*, a work that is made of dried painted flowers that refer to the flower fields in the south of France.

'Art for all' is the belief that underpins Gilbert & George's art. Their trademark format is the large grid, a square or rectangular picture broken into sections that becomes a unified field of signs and images. Gilbert & George began working together in 1967 when they met at St Martins School of Art, and from the beginning, in their films and 'living sculpture' they appeared as figures in their own work.

Toufan Hosseiny mainly works with textile as a medium in her work. The works in this exhibition come from her *Cloud* series, a new direction in the artist's oeuvre that investigates a societal and personal realignment with our bodies through poetic catharsis. Hosseiny's process, which is rooted in her private meditation practices, transcends the personal. Like cloud watching, her works are inherently universal - they change with time, and according to the viewer. Each Cloud begins as an exercise in meditative drawing, aiming to let go, allowing instinct to take over. The result is a poetic tension, a negotiation between the mind and the body. The lightness of the material gives us a feeling of summer.

The artworks of Tessa Perutz function as psychological landscapes, touring the fields and valleys of the earth as well as the inner mind. Her works are a testimony to spontaneous exploration: pinpointed with anecdotes, hasty jottings and existential ponderings. Encapsulating a mixed materiality, botanicals such as sand, lavender, and hibiscus, are incorporated for healing and transformative properties. For this exhibition, Tessa Perutz brings us a selection of colorful landscapes. Some of the works are made when she did a

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Besides the above artists from the gallery, we are also proud to present two works on paper by Pablo Picasso and Sam Francis. The always colorful works by Sam Francis match well with the theme of Summer. The work by Pablo Picasso depicts a bacchanalian party, an occasion at which the Romans celebrated Bacchus with wine, songs and dancing.