

Pressrelease

HADRIEN DUSSOIX  
„J'aime“

Opening: Friday, September 9, 2022 | 6 pm  
Exhibition: September 10 – October 22, 2022

With the exhibition „J'aime“ Andreas Binder Gallery is presenting works by the Swiss artist Hadrien Dussoix for the fourth time. The exhibition takes place in cooperation with Fondation Valmont, which also presents works by Hadrien Dussoix in the exhibition „s' amusement“ in its rooms at Maximilianstrasse 22.

The world of the media and its influence on the Swiss artist Hadrien Dussoix, born in 1975, forms the basis of an art that concerns itself with boundaries, inconsistencies and poetry. Looking at the world around him, including films and TV, the young artist picks up bold and simple messages with succinctly provocative and lyrical content – messages which he then adapts in his paintings. Each message is written in large letters, occupies the entire expanse of the canvas and becomes the central subject while acquiring its own autonomy and going beyond the pure meanings of the words. The written content becomes a painting, and a painting turns into a piece of writing. Dussoix's works enter into dialogue with the viewer in a variety of ways, for instance when Dussoix composes varnished letters on the canvas, as in „Lips Tits Hips“, „Made With Love“, „Well Paid Jobs“, „Time Will Tell“ where, because of the material nature of the painting, viewers see themselves mirrored and thus become part of the work.

„What will remain of the history of art?“ is the question that underlies Hadrien Dussoix's work. The artist paints renaissance or gothic churches on imposing monochrome canvases; these edifices are, according to the artist, the eternal landmarks of our cultural history. So as to counter this vision of the past with that of the contemporary world, Hadrien Dussoix uses spray paint to reproduce these sacred buildings and document them into our age.

Spontaneity of treatment and simplicity of form merge in an aesthetic and strong visual impact where the naturally flowing outlines highlight and illuminate the traits of these huge artworks. The paintings are countered by a variety of keenly composed sculptures. Plaster debris, ceramics, furniture and found objects, random objects bought together in a wild archaeological entity that seems to blur culture both past and present. Hadrien Dussoix offers us a modern insight into the art of the past. By mixing different techniques, the work of Hadrien Dussoix is a quest for a new aesthetic, combining spur-of-the-moment expression with past classicism, linking punk and sacred: Beyond Good and Evil.

Phrases and outlines break out of the canvas background due to the scratching of the black painted surface, reminiscent of child painting with wax crayons. However, beyond their true meaning, the radiant letters and forms refer not only to the limits of expression through language, but also to those of figurative representation. In some kind of "subjective formalism", Dussoix succeeds in revealing the poetic function behind the meaning of the words, far away from an informal aesthetic of the meaningless and in order to evoke emotions in the work of art and the beholder. His somehow naïve choice of color, form and technique lends his paintings something tragic and solemn at the same time; they are both happiness and despair, but in particular they speak about love.

In a radically obvious and casual way, he appropriates art historical positions of Constructivism, Suprematism and Bauhaus and translates them into his own imagery, by playing at the same time with the extremes of geometrical abstraction and subjective expression. Partially unfinished paintings deal with the artistic creation process to potential completion of the artwork as an essential question of art discourse and thus include the artist in the emergence of formalistic works again.

*Hadrien Dussoix lives and works in Geneva, where he has completed his studies at Ecole Supérieure des Beaux-Arts and Haute Ecole Supérieure des Arts Appliqués. From 2006 till 2008 Dussoix had won three times in a row the renowned „Swiss Art Award“ for young art. International group and solo exhibitions since 2002, among others: Swiss institute, Rome; Musée Rath, Geneva; MAMCO - Musée d'art moderne et contemporain, Genève, Galerie SAKS, Geneva; Galerie Lange & Pult, Zurich; Espacio Odéon; Bogota, Colombia; Palais de l'Aténée, Geneva; Vegas Gallery, London; Projektraum Viktor Bucher, Vienna; BAC – Espace „Le Commun“, Bâtiment d'Art Contemporain, Geneva, curated by Hadrien Dussoix and Peter Stoffel, Centre d'art contemporain, Geneva, Switzerland etc.*