

Dirimart Presents “Trooping the Colour” by Christoph Steinmeyer

February 9 – March 11, 2012



Trooping the Colour
2011
Oil on canvas
145 x 113,5 cm

Taking 19th century film, fashion photography, renaissance and the male figures used by the Baroque masters as reference and interpreting their realities at times, Christoph Steinmeyer astounds the viewers with figures bearing the traces of the Romantic tradition that extends from the 19th century to the present. Steinmeyer, breaking down all prejudices, invites the viewers into the depths of the fantastic dream world he portrays. His exhibition “Trooping the Colour” can be seen between the dates 9 February- 11 March at Dirimart.

Born in Düsseldorf, Christoph Steinmeyer, headed towards painting after studying philosophy and art history. Ever since the mid-1990's Christoph Steinmeyer has worked with a kind of symbolism that can be described as magical. Steinmeyer uses widely recognised visuals as references and transforms them by extracting their original contents. In his recent works, he has used his signature magical symbolism as a narrative combined with the cinematographic elements. He makes use of specific picture-in-picture combinations to break the space-time continuum of the interior spaces. Steinmeyer's “non-portraits”, rather than being artificial figures are filtered personifications that are extracted of their essences. They meet the audience through a conversion process from analog to digital, a process that perhaps can not yet be named or understood. His depictions can be defined as expanded representations as well as demarcating displays in a sociological sense.

At first, this appears to be a result of the initially broken, and filtered imagery. However, as the result of the decaying process of the alienated and destroyed material, a pop-psychedelic and baroque organism that embeds biological forms and strong colors within emerges. Even though, the molecular essence of this organism is formed by familiar materials, it represents an ethereal existence.

Christoph Steinmeyer will be exhibiting seven large-scale oil paintings, at his solo exhibition “Trooping the Colour” that will take place at Dirimart.

The reference point of the works that will be exhibited are the portraits of the male figures between the Renaissance and Baroque periods. Steinmeyer's work on these models are multi-layered and detailed. The works can not be understood entirely as new works or historical extracts. The real point in Steinmeyer's work, rather than being a familiar source of culture and history within the collective memory, is the process of painting itself.

Trooping the Colour, above all means to offer the viewers a world of color and form. In this unfamiliar environment, organic or so-called organic concentrations occur as materials lose their forms by moving around in uncanny vibrations. As opposed to all this, the notion of being mortal in a familiar but fantastic world gains a profoundness at a whole different dimension which can only be possible with the application of the painting techniques used by old masters and which require a lot of time and effort.

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CHRISTOPH STEINMEYER born in Düsseldorf, has studied art history and philosophy in Cologne and Düsseldorf Universities between 1986 and 1989.

The artist had solo exhibitions at many important galleries and museums all around the world. Among these are, “Nocturne Drive” in 2010 at Kunstlaboratorie Vestfossen in Oslo, “Lavender Falls” in 2009 at Suzanne Tarasiève in Paris, in 2008, “The Long Goodbye” at Kunstverein Heilbronn in Heilbronn, “Hotel Déjàvue” in 2006, at Galerie Michael Janssen in Köln, “Decameron” in 2000 at Künstlerverein Malkasten in Düsseldorf, “Ohne Ich Kein Du” at Galerie Spiekermann, “Boss Of Nova” in 1996 at Galería Saro Léon in Las Palmas.

The artist has participated in group exhibitions at many important galleries, museums and art centers such as: Berlin Wiensowski & Harbord, Paris Suzanne Tarasiève, New Galerie Greene Naftalifehlen, Art Mûr in Québec Montréal, Galerie Gisela Capitian in Köln, Galerie Mezzanin in Wien, Grusenmeyer Art Gallery, Centro Ricerca Artein, Galerie Michael Janssen, Kristian Burford, Gallery Engholm-Engelhorn, Institut Valencià d’Art Modern, Ohio Cleveland Institute of Art, New York Bellwether Gallery, Leverkusen Museum Morsbroich, New York Elizabeth Dee Gallery in New York New York C&M Arts, Milano Marella Arte Contemporanea, New York Matthew Marks Gallery, Düsseldorf Künstlerverein Malkasten, Galerie Andreas Binder in Munich , Galerie Michael Janssen in Köln and Kunsthalle Basel.

Christoph Steinmeyer lives and works in Berlin.

Dirimart

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10.00 – 19.00