

## PRESS RELEASE

**galerie burster** berlin

Christian August | *Not Without My Doubts*

13 July – 26 August 2023

Opening

Thursday, 13 July 2023, 6 – 9 pm

We are pleased to present *Not Without My Doubts*, Christian August's second solo show at galerie burster berlin.

August's abstract worlds of colour glow and bubble, diffuse, organic and alternating between loud and quiet, rough and smooth on the surface of the picture and seem so ethereal that you want to reach into the picture to try out where the colour haze ends and the material begins. While his earlier pictorial compositions seem almost weightless, without top and bottom, time and space, thus evoking associations of an idealised idea of the universe, August is now back on earth in his latest colour landscapes. Or rather, an in-between world, which also has something dystopian about it in its impressive colour intensity and spectrum.

Intense purple to red tones in the upper, and rich green tones in the middle and lower fields of the picture, give rise to new ecosystems between sky and earth, darkness and light, spring and winter, day and night. Interrupted by spontaneously placed gestures that resemble lightning or stardust, August's colour storms and thunderstorms immerse us in a landscape in flux and make us aware of the beauty of a world without us humans.

In a world that is out of balance, in which nature has become a plantation, formalised and scaled, in which we are in a state of maximum alienation, the desire for a return to natural and elemental forces, uncontrollable and intense, is all the more present. August's colour storms, like those in the sky, are beautiful and terrifying, his motifs dystopia and a place of longing at the same time.

In this way he creates unique atmospheric colour landscapes, which in their thematic and material complexity nevertheless remain subversive to clear attribution. This is also reflected in the title of the exhibition *Not Without My Doubts*. One might think that this refers exclusively to the complex painterly process, characterised by doubt, euphoria and discord. Rather, August as a listener and observer is concerned with a more cautious process of forming opinions, combined with scepticism about absolute knowledge and absolute unambiguity – towards a commitment to doubt. Because even if it does not correspond to our currently idealised mindset: doubting is part of our human nature.

Christian August (\*1977 in Halle (Saale), Germany) studied at the Burg Giebichenstein Kunsthochschule Halle as a student of Gerhard Schwarz. Under his alias KID CASH, August has been active as an urban artist since the 1990s. He is the founder and member of the artist group KLUB7, founded in 1998. In 2017, he received a scholarship from the Kunststiftung Sachsen-Anhalt. August lives and works in Berlin.

For more information, please contact Miriam Schwarz: [miriam@galerieburster.com](mailto:miriam@galerieburster.com)

Opening hours: Wednesday – Friday 12 – 6 pm | Saturday 12 – 4 pm and by appointment.