galerie burster

Press Release

Alex Feuerstein | Eglė Otto
Blickwechsel

Curated by Johanna Petersen

Opening   Friday, 23 January 2026, 6–9 pm
Exhibition   23 January – 28 February 2026

What happens when observation does not result in confirmation; when perception is not rewarded with clarity but is instead set in motion? When the image does not explain but responds by withdrawing? The exhibition *Blickwechsel* places the paintings of Eglė Otto and Alex Feuerstein in a field of tension in which seeing takes place not as a distanced act, but as a dynamic process in which the viewers themselves are inevitably involved.

In their painting, Alex Feuerstein and Eglė Otto move between abstraction and figuration without following formal boundaries. They develop pictorial spaces in which meaning is not fixed, but rather takes shape in the act of seeing. The gaze wanders between figure and surface, between compression and dissolution, between proximity and distance.

Alex Feuerstein's painting focuses on seemingly everyday situations. His works depict figures who appear lost in thought, engaged in actions that seem banal and yet simultaneously possess a peculiar tension. The spaces remain unstable, perspectives shift, and objects lose their clear function. The paintings defy a straightforward narrative, opening up a space for interpretation in which multiple possibilities can coexist.

This openness is closely linked to Feuerstein's working method. Paint, pigment and resin are applied to wood, then removed again, sanded and scratched. Chance structures and unplanned moments are embraced and developed further. The work evolves from within itself.

Eglė Otto's painting directs the gaze inward. The body is at the centre of the works, not as an object of contemplation, but rather as a space of experience. Paint acts as an independent material entity. Thickening, layering and scratch marks create physicalness without defining it. The body is not depicted, but rather brought forth in the painting process.

Clear attributions such as identity, gender or age remain deliberately ambiguous. What becomes visible is not the external appearance of a body, but its inner constitution. The feminist dimension of Otto's work does not emerge through an explicit juxtaposition of visual regimes, but rather through the fundamental questioning of seeing itself.

Both positions are linked by a deep trust in the Painting process. Creative decisions arise on the surface itself, in dialogue with the image. Scratching, removing and painting over are not corrections, but integral components of the image-making process.

Blickwechsel refers not only to the constellation of the two artists, but also to the movement that takes place within seeing itself. The exhibition invites viewers to take their own observation seriously while simultaneously questioning it. Not in order to provide answers, but to experience perception as an open, emotional and contradictory expanse.

Alex Feuerstein, born in 1981 in Heidelberg, lives and works in Karlsruhe and in the Odenwald region. He studied painting and graphic art at the State Academy of Fine Arts in Karlsruhe. His works have been shown in exhibitions in Germany and abroad. In 2024, the Bensheim Museum dedicated him a solo exhibition titled With Bare Hands. His works are part of public and private collections.

Eglė Otto was born in 1976 in Lithuania and emigrated to Germany in 1986. She lives and works in Berlin. In 2010, she completed her studies in painting at the Hamburg University of Fine Arts under Werner Büttner and Anselm Reyle. Her works have been exhibited internationally. In 2024 she received the Goldrausch Artist Project Award in Berlin. She has been involved in teaching and critical discourse and held a professorship at the Berlin University of the Arts in 2025. In 2028 the Paula Modersohn-Becker Museum in Bremen will present her first museum exhibition in Germany.

galerie burster berlin