

PRESS RELEASE

galerie burster karlsruhe

Gary Schlingheider

PRETTY IN PINK

15 January – 12 March 2022

Opening Galerientag Karlsruhe

Saturday, 15 January 2022, 3 – 8 pm | 2G-rule applies

We are pleased to present PRETTY IN PINK, Gary Schlingheider's second solo exhibition at galerie burster Karlsruhe.

Painting and sculpture are mutually dependent in the work of Gary Schlingheider and arise from the preoccupation with the border crossing of the two genres. Color and form are the main focus of the painter and sculptor's work. He works in large formats, with powerful opaque colors and geometric, reduced bodies. With a reference to art historical models such as the Minimalists, Ellsworth Kelly or Frank Stella, Schlingheider explores the boundaries between painting and sculpture anew.

In his paintings, he works with monochrome surfaces that are placed both next to each other and on top of each other. This results in a composition of clearly delineated geometric forms within the various layers. The illusion of a three-dimensional space is created. In the final step, the artist breaks out of the system. Varnish flows over the arrangement, separates the pictorial space, erases, delimits and at the same time opens up new areas. The application appears less two-dimensional, but more spontaneous and gestural – on the one hand calculated, on the other random. The spaces that emerge between the layers of paint and traces of varnish partly suggest those underneath, open up insights into the past process of the work's creation: Schlingheider's painting is primarily about the in-between and behind. The individual colors and layers play less of a role than the structure in its totality of superimpositions, exposures, and erasures.

As if breaking out of the painting, the structures also conquer the space. Painting and sculpture seem to merge fluidly. Everyday things are isolated from their original contexts, strongly abstracted and grow into simplified and clear bodies in Schlingheider's sculptures. (...) Similar to painting, interstices and newly emerging surfaces emerge within the steel frames in the sculptures. The elements, which at first appear abstract, can be individually read and interpreted by the viewer. Automatically, the viewer's gaze seeks in them – just as in his paintings – a figurativeness, a form that is filled with meaning.

— Eva Wolpers, Marta Herford | catalogue OWL 5 – Spurensuche

Gary Schlingheider (*1983 in Detmold) completed his studies at the Universität der Künste Berlin as a master student of Prof. Christine Streuli in 2017. He was awarded with the Manfred Fuchs Prize 2021, the Loth Sculpture Prize of art KARLSRUHE 2020 and the Difrung Prize for Sculpture 2017. He lives and works in Berlin and Ostwestfalen-Lippe.

For more information, please contact Miriam Schwarz: miriam@galerieburster.com