

Vivian Greven & Natascha Schmitten
Ghost

September 3 – Oktober 8, 2016
Opening September 2, 6-10 pm

Setareh Gallery is inaugurating its third art space with the exhibition Vivian Greven & Natascha Schmitten *Ghost*. Beneath a wisp of playful ease and sensual grace, *Ghost* divulges an enigmatic simultaneity of materiality and immateriality, opacity and transparency, reality and artifice.

Vivian Greven (b. 1985) immerses the pure human countenance – in the form of a portrait, nude, or eerie textile figure – in a painting style employing Old-Masterly hues and pictorial spaces. The porous surfaces of her canvasses coalesce with the figures' oil-painted skins, creating a subtle materiality. For her work, the artist also draws on art-historical masterpieces, which – as in the case of Giovanni Lorenzo Bernini's *Ecstasy of Saint Teresa* – she translates from marble sculpture into painting, emphasizing only the aspect that for her is fundamental: Teresa's ecstatic swoon at the overwhelming sight of the angel.

Natascha Schmitten (b. 1986) drapes her fragmentary pictorial spaces in a mysterious triad of transparent and opaque paints, indeterminable light sources and abstract forms on nylon. The surface appears matte and at the same time smooth as porcelain – like a delicate, fine-pored, vibrant, breathing skin which, stretched on the frame, becomes a skeleton of painting. The point of departure is painterly objectivity, which Schmitten translates into spheres of light and dissolves – partially mirrored – in abstract formal elements, thus silently releasing them into a state beyond recognition.

VIVIAN GREVEN

(*1985, lives and works in Düsseldorf, DE)

EDUCATION

- 2012 Masterclass, Prof. Siegfried Anzinger, Prof. Thomas Grünfeld, Academy of Art Düsseldorf, DE
- 2011 Artist in Residence, London, UK
- 2006 Studies at the Academy of Art Düsseldorf, DE

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2016 Strabag Artaward International 2016, Vienna, AT
- 2015 Setareh Future Masters Art Award, Düsseldorf, DE
- 2013 Grant of the Academy of Art Düsseldorf, DE

EXHIBITIONS (selection)

- 2016 False Head, Galerie Thomas Fuchs, Stuttgart, DE (solo)
- Strabag Artaward International 2016, Strabag Artforum, Vienna, AT
- Die große Kunstausstellung NRW, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, DE
- 2015 Ping Pong, Sittarder Straße, Düsseldorf, DE
- Young Positions, Galerie Heinz Holtmann, Cologne, DE
- Holy Shit, Ruelle, Mainz, DE
- Genius Loci III, Setareh Gallery, Düsseldorf, DE
- Malerei, jetzt., KIT, Düsseldorf, DE
- Künstler sammeln, Akademie Galerie, Düsseldorf, DE
- 2014 Diana, Galerie Thomas Fuchs, Stuttgart, DE (solo)
- German Kleinformat, Kunstverein Koelnberg, Cologne, DE
- NODISCO, Projektraum Sammlung Philara, Düsseldorf, DE
- 2013 Boogie Woogie, SAAL 3, Düsseldorf, DE
- German Kleinformat, Lateral Art Space, Cluj, ROU
- Die große Kunstausstellung NRW, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, DE
- 2012 German Kleinformat, Calle 6, San Pedro de los Pinos, MEX
- 2011 German Kleinformat, Bermondsey Project Space, London, UK
- Vivian Greven, Museum Kunstraum Neuss e.V., Neuss, DE (solo)

NATASCHA SCHMITTEN

(*1986, lives and works in Cologne, DE)

EDUCATION

- 2012 Masterclass, Prof. Siegfried Anzinger, Academy of Art, Düsseldorf, DE
- 2011 Artist in Residence, London, UK
- 2006 Studies at the Academy of Art Düsseldorf, DE

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2012 Mercuri Urval Grant
- 2010 Max Ernst Grant

EXHIBITIONS (selection)

- 2016 PESTALOZZI, Gutenbergstraße 55, Wuppertal, DE
- SUMBISORI, Quartier am Hafen, Cologne, DE
- Die grosse Kunstausstellung NRW, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, DE
- 2015 Bouillon, Schloss Neersen, Willich, DE (solo)
- Natascha Schmitt AMYGDALA, Stefan Schuelke Fine Books, Cologne, DE (solo)
- AUKTIONSHAUS BRUCH & DOLLAR\$, BRUCH & DALLAS, Cologne, DE
- Amygdala, Jagla Ausstellungsraum, Cologne, DE (solo)
- First Flush, Bayer Kultur Reihe stART: Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, Kulturhaus BAYER Leverkusen, Leverkusen, DE
- 2014 Männer und Frauen, Jagla Ausstellungsraum, Cologne, DE
- Brillant – Junge Kunst aus der Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, WGZ Bank, Düsseldorf, DE
- German Kleinformat, Kunstverein Koelnberg, Cologne, DE
- New talents – bienale cologne 2014, t.a.t., Kulturquartier Köln, Cologne, DE
- 2013 German Kleinformat, Lateral Art Space, Cluj, ROU
- Die grosse Kunstausstellung NRW, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, DE
- 2012 German Kleinformat, neter projects, Mexico City, MEX
- Mercuri Urval Stipendium 2012, Mercuri Urval, Düsseldorf, DE (solo)
- 2011 German Kleinformat, Bermondsey Project Space, London, UK
- Derweil, Galerie Bruehl, Brühl, DE (solo)