

KATZ CONTEMPORARY

LEIF TRENKLER
"L'heure bleue"

24 March - 19 May 2012
Opening: Friday, 23 March 2012, 6 - 8 pm

KATZ CONTEMPORARY proudly presents its first solo show of works by **Leif Trenkler** (*1960, Wiesbaden, Germany), having already featured in the 2009 group exhibition *Portraits, Faces & People* at KATZ CONTEMPORARY. "L'heure bleue" showcases Trenkler's most recent works, depicting the magic moment when night turns to day.

Leif Trenkler is amongst the first members of the Neue Figuration movement in Germany, defining a new path in contemporary art with his unique style of painting. His realistic works capture seemingly insignificant moments, mostly of people moving in public spaces surrounded by nature. Trenkler's precise choice of colour and barely traceable brushstrokes result in closed and staged compositions, painted almost exclusively on wooden surfaces.

The use of wooden surface is not the only trademark that Trenkler adopted from the Old Masters; the viewer can detect further allusions to his painterly predecessors. These references are skilfully transferred to the media age, evoking an aesthetic of today's club and lounge culture. Trenkler's works could be read as a reportage on daily life; not so concerned with depicting the exotic but rather the subtle shifts of everyday living. The use of both light and shadow and water reflections blur the boundaries of time and space in Trenkler's work. The viewer unconsciously experiences a loss of orientation, space is open to possibility and pure visibility is the theme - most notably in the two pieces *Mittsommernacht (East Hampton)* and *Hund im Swimmingpool*.

The distinction between fiction and reality is unclear in Trenkler's work. By dissolving spatial borders, a new space is created, electric with the possibility of poetic-phantastic transcendence. It is this quality that continually succeeds in captivating the viewer when observing the works.

Leif Trenkler (*1960, Wiesbaden, lives and works in Cologne, Germany) studied at Städelschule in Frankfurt/Main and Kunstakademie Düsseldorf. His work has been showcased in solo shows at a number of prestigious galleries - both domestic and abroad - and been featured in several group exhibitions, most recently at Salon der Gegenwart in Hamburg.

Raphaella Arnold

For image material and further information please contact the gallery:
Tel: +41 44 212 22 00 / info@katzcontemporary.com

LONG GALLERY NIGHT LEFT OF THE LIMMAT

13 April 2012, 6 - 10 pm

FÜHRUNG / ART LUNCH

Friday, 20 April & Friday, 11 Mai 2012, 12:15 pm

Art Lunch invites you to participate in a 20-minute-tour through the exhibition of Leif Trenkler and - for anyone who brings enough time - to enjoy a nice lunch at a nearby restaurant afterwards (ca. 25.- CHF).

Please sign up for the Guided Tour / Art Lunch to:
Tel: +41 44 212 22 00 / info@katzcontemporary.com

PREVIEW

Elger Esser, Part I, 6 June - 21 July 2012
Opening: Tuesday, 5 June 2012, 6 - 8 pm