

SCHWARZ CONTEMPORARY

Press Release - June 2012

LAURENCE EGLOFF

We are pleased to announce the first solo show by **Laurence Egloff** at SCHWARZ CONTEMPORARY. The exhibition of paintings by the French artist, who lives and works in Berlin, will run until 21 July 2012.

Laurence Egloff's paintings are the objectivisation of an impression that an image made on the artist.

Frequently, Egloff's points of departure are figurative paintings familiar from art history, as well as private photographs. What all her sources have in common is that at the moment the artist beholds them, they evoke a special emotion or memory in her.

In her further engagement with these pictures, she uses reproductions where the details are no longer clearly recognisable. This creates a distancing gap so that the picture is reduced to the impression it made, and the emotion is extracted from the original, thus making the physical picture secondary.

Sometimes, the artist develops motifs that she had already painted before further by using them in several works, which leads to an ever-growing distance to the original. For example, paintings that were painted one after the other culminate in *Perspektive* (2012) in a new work, whose origin is no longer necessarily identifiable.

This distance is also reflected in Laurence Egloff's mode of painting: on the one hand, her intuitive choice of colours is not necessarily dependent on the colour scheme of the model - rather, it is determined by her subjective perception of it; on the other hand, the lines made with a quick hand and a coarse brush only hint at figures, shapes, and spaces. They are arranged into an overall composition that conveys the artist's experience of reception.

The largest work in the current exhibition, *Kana*, 2012, shows how the monumental painting *Le nozze di Cana* by Paolo Veronese, painted in 1563, is so reduced in terms of figures and shapes that it is only hinted at.

However, the lively arrangement, in spite of its distance to the original, is not entirely lost in the abstraction. In every painting, Egloff's formal vocabulary is assembled into a specific new representation.

In spite of the dynamics that the paintings develop through their colours and shapes, they might be called a snapshot, the immortalisation of an emotion on a canvas, and the concretisation of something immaterial. The process of painting has special significance here. Even though photography is the more suitable medium for capturing something ephemeral in a matter of seconds, Egloff sees the relative slowness of painting as an important advantage: in her work, not just a moment of experience captured, but rather the conglomeration of the event of her own perception, the emotion triggered by that perception, and the time she needs to translate this perception onto the canvas.

Text: Ferial Nadja Karrasch

Translation: Wilhelm Werthern, www.zweisprachkunst.de

Laurence Egloff, born in Paris in 1972, graduated from Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris in 1999. She lives and works in Berlin.

The opening of Laurence Egloff's show at SCHWARZ CONTEMPORARY takes place on June 21, 2012 between 6 and 8 pm.

For further information or any inquiries please contact the gallery at anytime via: mail@schwarz-contemporary.com