

P R E S S R E L E A S E

'Friday' with works by Katharina Fengler, Charlotte Herzig, and Sonia Kacem

Curated by Samuel Leuenberger & Elise Lammer

Opening: Friday, January 10th, 2014, 8:00 p.m.

Duration: January 11th – 25th, 2014



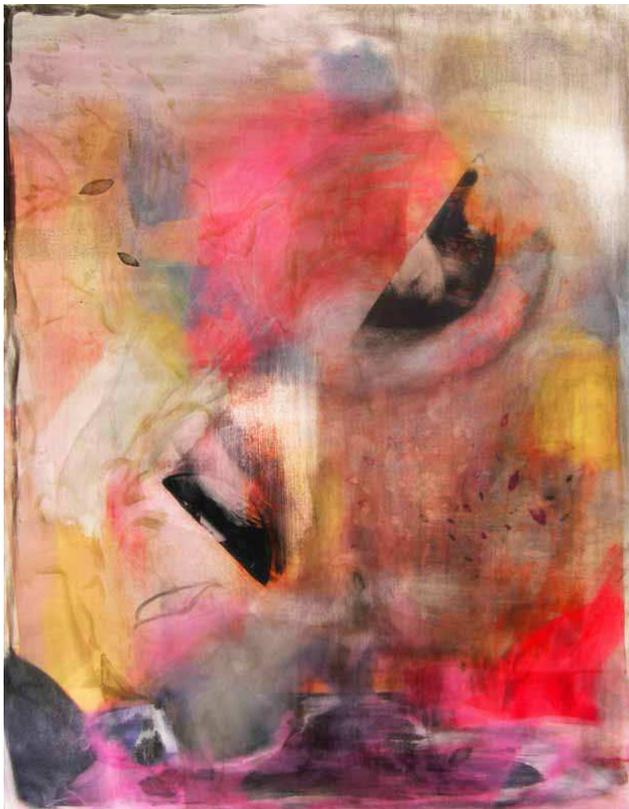
Sonia Kacem, Les Vagues, 2012, Photographic paper background, fabrics, metal, bathtub, wood, copyright Sonia Kacem, photo: Rebecca Bowring

FRIDAY is an homage to "Friday, or the Other Island", a novel by Michel Tournier from 1967. The story retells Daniel Defoe's "Robinson Crusoe", who after being shipwrecked on an island in the Pacific, slowly adapts to a new life with the help of Friday, a native islander, who introduces him to new ways of experimenting time and space.

Defoe's 1719 Crusoe is a very nostalgic character, whose archetypal features are built after a colonialist context. During the 28 years he spent as a castaway, the character tries to convert, subordinate and transform his alien environment with the purpose of expanding the British empire. When Defoe's Crusoe is eventually rescued, he qualifies his return as a delivery.

Two centuries and a half later, Tournier's version brings a very poetic reinterpretation, where Friday, a native islander becomes a central figure in Crusoe's philosophical evolution on the island. The story revolves around the forgetting of the pre-existing society and introduces the utopian idea of creating an alternative and better system, with its potential to bring new meanings. Crucially, at the end of the story, Crusoe decides to stay on the island and have his rescuers promise to never reveal to anyone the location of the island upon their return to England.

The exhibition FRIDAY refers to the symbolic meaning of the island understood as an idealised and reclusive conceptual space for the creation of new meanings. The show gathers the work of three artists who meet for the first time, bringing existing works as well as creating site-specific works together. FRIDAY speculates on the ongoing challenge that bringing different practices together involves with the intention to create a "real" visual dialogue between three strangers, while symbolising the coming together of various artistic positions, getting accustomed to each other, learning from each other to finally go separate ways again.



Charlotte Herzig, Blush, Acrylic on canvas, 160 x 120 cm, copyright Charlotte Herzig



Katharina Fengler, Anosognosia of Everyday Life, 2013
MDF, wall-paint, salt dough, glue, liquid watercolour, 100 x 39 x 35 cm
copyright Katharina Fengler, photo: Ryan Thylor

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Hours of opening: Thu – Sat, 4:00 – 7:00 pm and upon request