

## Gallery Weekend Berlin

### Florian Meisenberg & David Renggli

**Opening** April 26, 2019, 6 – 9 pm

**Exhibition:** April 27 – June 1, 2019

For Gallery Weekend Berlin 2019 Wentrup presents a duo show of New York-based artist Florian Meisenberg (born 1980 in Berlin) and Zurich-based artist David Renggli (born in 1974 in Zurich) in the new gallery space in Berlin Charlottenburg

The background is brought to the fore, the foundation of all paintings is moved into focus: the grid. In their latest works, Florian Meisenberg and David Renggli focus on the structure and the material of the canvas.

Florian Meisenberg uses the canvas as a modern fresco in which he mixes primer and pigments into one another like watercolors or more precisely like a tie-dye. Already in the moment of priming the canvas, he intervenes in a painterly manner to achieve a particular luminescence of the colors. Here, Meisenberg has worked with programmed household robots that project cyclically, and painfully slowly, the canvas's memory onto itself with Indian ink.

David Renggli brings the microstructure of the linen on the canvas to a macro-level, like detailed zooming-in of the canvas material through which we gaze on color planes that become a support of paint.

In his earlier works from the *Desire Painting* series, Renggli worked with floor plans of luxury apartments as form-giving elements and symbols for desire and abstract thinking. In these recent paintings, the point of reference is Venice, exploring its imagery through the city's architectural vernacular and imagery such as the gondola boat, that offer a different yearning, albeit the same value system.

With Florian Meisenberg, primordial creatures that seem to originate from the depths of YouTube, *Guilty Dogs* with exaggerated long snouts, protozoans and multi-cellular creatures, offer us different derivatives of self portraits. The canvas becomes a platform where the viewer links one pictorial plain to the next, which Meisenberg sometimes alludes to with windows and in others, the subject within those windows.

The correspondence develops between Florian Meisenberg's creatures and David Renggli's cat sculptures that are distributed around the gallery space, all of which are covered with the digital watermark "a".

Through the 'alamy-stockphoto-marks' that can also be found in the paintings, Renggli raises the question of who owns whom, and asks whether works of art can undermine the appropriation of external Internet mechanisms by alamyization—i.e., by copying the copy protection. The collective virtual memory, fed by countless cat and dog videos on the Internet, is triggered—intentionally or unintentionally—for the beholder when her or she sees both Renggli's cat sculptures alongside the recurrent creatures in Florian Meisenberg's paintings.

# WENTRUP

**Florian Meisenberg** has had his work featured in numerous international museums and galleries, including Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt; Kunstpalais Erlangen; Kölnischer Kunstverein, Cologne; Kunsthalle Düsseldorf; Kasseler Kunstverein; Ludwig Forum, Aachen; Wilhelm-Hack-Museum, Ludwigshafen; Kunstwerke Berlin (all in Germany); Museum Kunsten in Aalborg, Denmark; Henie Onstad Kunstsenter in Oslo, Norway; ICA Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, PA; Queens Museum of Art und Simone Subal Gallery in New York, NYC; Kate MacGarry Gallery, London, Great Britain; Francois Ghebaly Gallery in Los Angeles, CA and Mendes Wood Gallery in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

In late June 2019, Meisenberg will open a duo exhibition with Anna K.E. at Kunstpalais Erlangen, Germany. He is also represented in the large survey show *Jetzt! Junge Malerei in Deutschland* at Kunstmuseum Bonn, which will later travel to Museum Wiesbaden, Kunstsammlung Chemnitz, and Deichtorhallen Hamburg (all Germany). Further upcoming group exhibitions include Zabłudowicz Collection, London, Great Britain; Künstlerhaus Bremen and the Museum der Bildenden Künste in Bremen (all Germany).

Works by Florian Meisenberg are in the collections of the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA; Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, Philara Collection, Düsseldorf; Kunsthalle Recklinghausen; Wilhelm-Hack-Museum, Ludwigshafen; Julia Stoschek Collection Düsseldorf; Boros Collection, Berlin; Sammlung Osram, Munich (all Germany); Zabłudowicz Collection, London, Great Britain; Vanhaerents Art Collection, Belgium; The Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, OH and numerous international private collections.

**David Renggli's** work has been exhibited in international solo and group shows and at institutions such as Kunstmuseum Bellpark Kriens in Lucerne; Migros Museum, Zurich; Museum Rietberg, Zurich; Kunsthalle Freiburg, Fribourg; Kunsthalle St. Gallen, St. Gallen; Kunsthalle Bern (all Switzerland); Museum Kunstraum Baden, Baden; Kunstsammlung Chemnitz (both Germany); Swiss Institute, New York, NYC; Tate Britain, London, Great Britain; CCAndratx, Mallorca, Spain; Maison van Doesburg in Meudon, France; and Associazione Barriera in Turin, Italy.

Currently works by Renggli are on view in the group show *Concrete Contemporary* at Museum Haus Konstruktiv in Zurich in Switzerland. He is also part of the exhibition *Wege zur Welt – Sammlung Hildebrandt*, which will open at the end of may at G2 Kunsthalle in Leipzig, Germany.

Works by David Renggli are in the collections of Migros Museum, Zurich; Kunsthaus Zürich; Museum Bellpark, Kriens; Fotomuseum Winterthur; Bächler Stiftung, Zurich (all Switzerland); FRAC Nord de Palais, Dunkirk, France; Sammlung Philara, Düsseldorf, Germany; Pizzutti Collection in Columbus, OH; Rosenblum Collection, Hong Kong, and numerous international private collections.