2022

Curated by Jo Hummel Text by Marius von Brasch

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Preview: 6th December 2019 6 - 8 pm

In an essay on painting, David Joselit writes: 'Each and every painting is a time battery'.

This metaphor associates different levels of time: an accelerated access to multiple art images through social media; the fact that any painting may refer back in time to the history of painting; and that paintings can contain time as a subject as well as a process, made visible to a greater or lesser degree by the artist.

In a studio conversation, painters in this group discussed the quantum leap year of 1922, with its sudden literary, musical and painterly condensation of Modernism. Looking back, Modernist ideas, although filling entries of art histories as if it was a completed project, seem still alive like flying arrows, pointing towards and inspiring an unknown 'new'.

One of the most important developments within Modernist painting led away from classical representation and its adherence to objective reality.

Modernist painting aims to evoke 'presence' (in contrast to re-presentation) by revealing the relationship between the materiality of paint, the making of art, experience and time. The overlapping of media and focusing on processes using memory, consciousness and time involve fragmentation, collage and synthesis, which touch on research in human consciousness and its psychological and scientific implications.

This approach questions how to create something new, incorporating both representations of the flux of time rather than static objects, and difference within repetition. Painting in this way means understanding canvases as spaces for thinking and emotive responses, reflecting on contemporary life.

While preparing for this exhibition we ask ourselves, what could happen one hundred years later in 2022, and how could we contribute something prospective rather than retrospective? And the differences in our individual work propose a range of responses to this conversation.

2022 7 - 14 December 2019

Exhibition opening times:

Saturday 7 December 11-4pm Sunday 8 December 11-4pm And then by appointment until 14 December. For appointments please email info@johummel.com or call 07533760716

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