

GALERIE RICHARD

Koen DELAERE

Run Run Run

December 14, 2024 – January 18, 2025

Galerie Richard is pleased to present Koen DELAERE's second solo exhibition, following the gallery's first in New York. His exhibition entitled *Run Run Run*, his first exhibition in Paris will run at the Espace Turenne from December 14, 2024 to January 18, 2025. Koen DELAERE, a conceptual painter, establishes a rigorous methodology that becomes the guiding principle of his creative process. Each work is born of a well-thought-out framework, including the choice of materials and the dynamics of gestures. This approach not only structures his work, but also reveals his deep respect for painting as both material and practice.

Working on the floor, DELAERE manipulates paint, binders, inks and other materials, pouring them out almost brutally, mainly along a vertical axis. Here, the gestures are more energetic, spontaneous and repetitive. In the series of paintings split by a vertical intersection, the artist applies thick layers of paint with larger tools. The paint is pushed, scraped or even allowed to build up brutally, creating marked reliefs. Accumulations of material are much denser, especially at the edges or in dark areas.

The central division that runs through most of the canvases plays a fundamental role. The thicker, more textured accumulations of material reinforce this idea of junction. This zone becomes a culminating point, highlighting the depth and strength of the artistic gesture. This zone functions as a transition, where opposites such as fluidity and density, light and darkness, meet to create new dynamics.

The artist favors linear gestures, mostly from top to bottom for this series. The paint is applied in successive layers. Each layer is worked to interact with the previous one. The final result is softer, smoother and more fluid than the rawer series with its accumulations of paint.

“If you ever watched the late, great Joe Strummer play guitar, it was a triumph of physicality over finesse. One stroke up, one stroke down. Strummer never claimed to be Eric Clapton (he'd have hated the idea, I'm sure), but he was convinced of the communicative power of music and the need to take action. I only saw The Clash play once, in 1983, and I still remember it - sonically, visually and atmospherically - it was very strong, very bright and very close.”

Koen Delaere was born in 1970 in Bruges, Belgium, and currently lives and works in Tilburg, the Netherlands. He is a graduate of the Academy for Visual Education, where he studied art and philosophy. He has received a grant from the De Pont Foundation. Recent exhibitions have been with Mike Weiss Gallery, New York, Rod Barton Gallery, Brussels. Gerhard Hofland Gallery regularly exhibits the artist in its gallery and at art fairs. His works are part of the permanent collections of Centraal Museum Utrecht, SMBK De Vleeshal Middelburg, Dordrechts Museum, CCA Andratx, Mallorca, Bouwfonds Investment Management Netherlands.

Koen DELAERE exhibits at the 20th anniversary of the Van Horn Gallery in Düsseldorf. This is followed by a representation of the artist by Fox Jensen Gallery in Sydney and Fox Jensen McCrory Auckland at the Melbourne Art Fair. He will also exhibit at Art Bruxelles with Galerie Van Horn and at Art Basel Hong Kong again with Fox Jensen and Fox Jensen McCrory. Finally, a solo exhibition will be held at the Fox Jensen Gallery in Sydney.