

Herrmann Germann
Contemporary

Daniel Karrer
Durch die Hecke

25 August – 1 October 2011
Opening, Wednesday 24 August, 6–9 p.m.
with a concert by
<James Légeres> 7.30 p.m.

«Everything that is, appears and is visible to us, because we perceive the appearance that it reflects; nothing else is visible.»

Gerhard Richter – Notizen, 1989

Daniel Karrer's painting blends the possibilities of the digital age with the qualities of traditional painting techniques. Karrer researches, combines, and archives image fragments of places, things, and situations that serve his pictorial worlds as a motivic point of departure. His visual idiom consists of contrasts between nature and artifice, landscape and architecture, and in some cases also between human figures. Partly composed of disharmonies of perspective and compositional distortions, his work presents the viewer with manifold contrasts between sombre tones and brightly luminous details. Karrer radically spells out spatial situations, as a curious collagist who integrates an array of heterogeneous elements with vivid brushstrokes. Here, the banal, mysterious, and uncanny meet to create a relaxed equilibrium – here, the surfaces of civilisation happen upon moments at which the atmosphere appears to keel over into its opposite.

«When I see or think of the number four, then the colour yellow always comes into play. Not that I actually beheld the colour yellow when I see the number four; but it is precisely that colour that appears before my mind's eye. I think it.» – Synaesthetic perceptions find expression in Karrer's approach to painting. Style and subject are interrelated, just as melody and poetry are in a piece of music. They interact, complement each other, and extend each other's meaning. Karrer's paint-

ings are not translations of illusions, but themselves reality in a sense. His themes at once carry and occasion his painting – thus making painting itself his theme. – tg

Daniel Karrer was born in Binningen (northwestern Switzerland) in 1983. After earning a BA in Art Education from Basel Academy of Art and Design and following an exchange for painting students at Leipzig Academy of Visual Arts, he completed an MA in Fine Arts at Basel Academy of Art and Design. He lives and works in Basel, CH.

JAMES LÉGERES was born in 1994 in Rimini the day before C. Love became a widow. His mother soon after left for Miami to become big in porn business. His wife being gone, Mr. Zimmermann communicated with his son only by the sorrowful tunes of his mandolin. Young James found his family elsewhere: The sea and the wind whispered everything he needed to know about life (Bitch!). The beach and women set the scene for numerous adventures and songs. As the turn of the millennium drew nigh, James decided to leave his hometown with nothing but a memory and his shoes. He crossed the San Gottardo and wandered down the River Rhyne to Basel. Things have changed since James set out on his journey: He got computerized in 2000, and in the following years, still stumbling through the narrow alleys of Basel, he split into many selves. As Carla Johnson and/or Ambrosius Huber and/or Tobias Koch and/or Daniel Karrer and/or Stefan Karrer, he now plays his songs in a chamber with an open window. – www.jameslegeres.com