

DOMINIK LOUDA

Opening: 15.11.2016, 6 pm

Exhibition: 16.11.2016 - 23.12.2016

Press release

Dominik Louda, who is dealing intensively with architecture and building materials for a long time, focuses in his new solo exhibition on the architecture of Brutalism, which was shaping the building culture in Europe and America from the 1950s to the 70s.

He is depicting rich in detail the marked characteristics of walls, pillars and struts with oil and gouache on canvas. Louda is confronting those laborious paintings with quickly done works on paper, which also refer to concrete. Last ones are presented on a large passpartout made out of wallpaper, which imitates the structure of concrete as well. In this kind of self-ironic gesture, Louda is showing the handcrafted imitation on the industrial imitation and therefore a kind of brutalistic mannerism.

At the same time Louda's works also openly show his immense fascination for this building culture. The term Brutalism refers to french *béton brut* (raw concrete) and is describing in this the main characteristics of this architectural style. The artist is referring in his new series of works to one of the most interesting and famous brutalist buildings of Vienna. The Wotruba-Church (aka the Church of the Holy Trinity), a sculpturous building made out of glass and concrete, which stands on the Georgenberg in the 23rd district since 1976. Louda is using views from details of this architecture on his canvases, in which he is also playing with our understanding of perspective and the contradiction of three-dimensionality and planeness. Those works convince in terms of aesthetics and composition, as well as in the confrontation with those apparent quickly done works on paper, in their fineness and richness of details.

Dominik Louda (*1985 in Salzburg) studied at the Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna (Hubert Schmalix and Amelie von Wulffen) and at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Copenhagen (Anette Abrahamsson). Currently he lives and works in Vienna.

Selected exhibitions: *SALÒ. Jahresausstellung 2016*, Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg (2016), *Parallel Gallery's Choice*, Parallel, Vienna (2016), *Bar du Bois*, Galerie der Stadt Schwaz, Schwaz (2016), *Graphisches Kabinett*, Bar du Bois, Vienna (2015), *Sammlung des Landes Salzburg*, Galerie im Traklhaus, Salzburg (2015), *... aus dem Lungau. Lungauer KünstlerInnen*, Kulturpavillion, Tamsweg (2014), *Scaffolding*, Kerstin Engholm Galerie, Vienna (2014), *Städtebauliche Prosa* und *Städtebauliche Prosa II*, Kerstin Engholm Galerie, Vienna (2013), *Kunst am Rathaus*, Rathaus, Vienna, (2012), *Plane Spaces*, Kerstin Engholm Galerie, Vienna (2011), *Interieur*, Pro Choice, Vienna (2009).

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