

NICODIM

KATHERINA OLSCHBAUR: LIVE FLESH

Nicodim Los Angeles

December 16, 2021 – January 29, 2022



Katherina Olschbaur, *After Venus and Adonis (Live Flesh)*, 2021

Over the course of his life, Titian painted thirty-some versions of the lovelorn Venus' failed seduction of Adonis, the young man's sights set on other game. Titian's recursive portrayals extend a single tragedy into a Sisyphean courtship; Venus eternally outstretched and tumbling, Adonis forever recoiling in disgust. Their flailing embrace is fleeting and infinite. *Live Flesh*, Katherina Olschbaur's third solo exhibition with Nicodim, permeates the circular mythology of Titian's repeated compositions and furthers Venus' tortured ecstasy into epic, unresolved narratives that stretch beyond.

The skin within *Live Flesh* pulsates with electric current. It throbs, it glistens, it crawls, it bleeds. It is *alive*. In "After Venus and Adonis (Live Flesh)," 2021, the subjects' skin telegraphs the direction of motion: the hot-blooded seductress expels the cooler-toned Adonis into a menacing storm. Olschbaur's heroine is more muscular and masculine than her predecessors—she is a vicious huntress—while her

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Live Flesh is a body of work centered on the body itself. It is a study of the equal and opposite forces that keep our skin and everything inside it in constant motion as we hurtle through space. Like Titian to Venus and Adonis, Olschbaur's new paintings visit and revisit a central action and reaction, but the bodies themselves dictate the resulting drama. They are arguments against predetermination, a rainbow of possible and impossible outcomes.

Katherina Olschbaur (b.1983, Bregenz, Lake Constance, Austria) lives and works in Los Angeles, California. Olschbaur graduated from the University of Applied Arts, Vienna, Austria. Recent exhibitions include *Dominique Fung and Katherina Olschbaur: My Kingdom and a Horse*, Galeria Nicodim, Bucharest (2021, two-artist); *Night Blessings*, Union Pacific, London (2021, solo), *Tortured Ecstasies*, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles (2020, solo); *Dirty Elements*, Contemporary Arts Center Gallery, UC Irvine, Irvine, CA, USA (2020, solo); *Hollywood Babylon: A Re-Inauguration of the Pleasure Dome*, Jeffrey Deitch, Nicodim, AUTRE Magazine, Los Angeles, CA (2020); *The Divine Hermaphrodite*, GNYF Gallery, Berlin, Germany (2019, solo); and *Horses*, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles, USA (2018, solo). In 2021, she was selected for Kehinde Wiley's Black Rock residency in Dakar, Senegal.

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Katherina Olschbaur

° Born 1983, Bregenz, Lake Constance, Austria

Lives and works in Vienna, Austria and Los Angeles, CA

Education

- 2001-2009 University of Applied Arts Vienna (Painting, Animation Film, Stage Design), Austria
2006-2007 4 month travel and research project on Bruno Schulz in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Israel
2005 Erasmus Scholarship Wimbledon School of Art, London, United Kingdom

Solo and Two-Person Exhibitions

- 2021 *Live Flesh*, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Dominique Fung and Katherina Olschbaur: My Kingdom and a Horse, Galeria Nicodim, Bucharest, Romania
Night Blessings, Union Pacific, London, UK
- 2020 *Tortured Ecstasies*, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Dirty Elements, Contemporary Arts Center Gallery, UC Irvine, Irvine, CA
- 2019 *The Divine Hermaphrodite*, GNYP Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 2018 *Horses*, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Deep Cuts, PØST, Los Angeles, CA
WILDE REITER, OOF Books, Los Angeles, CA
- 2017 *Liquid Promises* (curated by Mia Laska), Bendix Building, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 *Haunted by Strokes*, Galerie Werkstatt Graz, Austria
Featured Artist at Art Bodensee Fair, Dornbirn, Austria
Von Tangenten und Passanten (with Luisa Kasalicky), LLLLL Space, Vienna, Austria
- 2015 *The Opening*, Brick 5 Theater, Vienna, Austria
Parallel Vienna, Alte Post, Vienna, Austria
PONG (with Olivia Kaiser), Kunstraum am Schauplatz, Vienna, Austria
- 2013 *Über Malerei*, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, Austria
Dickicht (with Matthias Buch), Vienna Art Foundation – Büro Weltausstellung, Vienna, Austria
- 2011 *Wicked Walls*, MUSA - Museum on Demand, Vienna, Austria
Schatten und Wirbel, Museum Spoerri, Hadersdorf am Kamp, Austria
Into deeper lands – at open sea, Magazin Vienna, Austria

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2008 *Unsichere Räume*, Kunstraum Praterstraße 15, Vienna, Austria
2007 *Yussuf/Cermak* (with Lorenz Helfer), Galerie Lisi Hämmerle, Bregenz, Austria

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2021 *My Secret Garden*, Asia Art Center, Taipei
Density Betrays Us, The Hole, New York, NY
Women in Paris, Eric Hussenot, Paris, France
Friend Zone, Half Gallery, New York, NY
- 2020 *PAPA RAGAZZE!*, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Quixotic, Ramp Gallery, London, United Kingdom
When You Waked Up the Buffalo, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
A Peripheral Reverie, Penske Projects, Montecito, CA
We Used to Gather, Library Street Project, Detroit, MI
What's Up Twenty Twenty, Lawrence Van Hagen, London, United Kingdom
Hollywood Babylon, Nicodim Gallery, AUTRE Magazine, Jeffrey Deitch, Los Angeles, CA
New Beginnings, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2019 *LA on Fire*, Wilding Cran Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Todas Mis Damas, Mexico City, Mexico
Trans World, Galeria Nicodim, Bucharest, Romania
Trans World, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Our Lady of the Flowers, Galeria Nicodim, Bucharest, Romania
- 2018 *SEED*, curated by Yvonne Force Villareal, Paul Kasmin Gallery, New York, NY
BioPerversity, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Formal Encounters, Galeria Nicodim, Bucharest, Romania
Soft Bodies, Werkartz, Los Angeles, CA
- 2017 *Moi non Moi – Carrying Owls to Athens*, Wiener Artfoundation, 77B Kallirrois, Athens, Greece
Pictures of Nothing, PG Art Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
A Painters Table, Blackbridge OFF Space, Beijing, China
M, Galerie Z, Hard, Austria
Avenue, curated by Amer Abbas and Stefan Bidner, Athens, Greece
Parallel at Art Vienna Fair, Museum Leopold, Vienna, Austria
Academy Art Auction, Dorotheum, Vienna, Austria
- 2016 *Summer in the City*, Galerie Christine König, Vienna, Austria
Presentation with Christine König Gallery at Artissima, Torino, Italy
Presentation with Christine König Gallery at Vienna Contemporary, Austria
Paper doesn't blush, Αισχύλου 31, Ψυπρή, curated by Stefan Bidner, Athens, Greece
Parallel United, Artfoundation, Vienna, Austria
Young Art Auction, 21er Haus Vienna, Austria

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- 2015 *Mujeras Alcanzando la Luz*, Casa Museo del Banco National, Panama City, Panama
Buchstabenfest, Zollamt Bad Radkersburg, Austria
The Katharsis Show, Vienna Art Foundation, Vienna, Austria
Colour Value, Büro Weltausstellung, Vienna, Austria
- 2014 *Anton Faistauer Prize for Painting*, Galerie im Traklhaus, Salzburg, Austria
Die große Illusion, Atelier Steinbrener/ Dempf, Vienna, Austria
Parallelwelten, Galerie Gerersdorfer, Vienna, Austria
Hier und Jetzt, Habsburgerwohnung, curated by Renate Quehenberger, Vienna, Austria
- 2013 *Triangel*, Künstlerhaus Palais Thurn und Taxis, Bregenz, Austria
If sport is the brother of labour, then art is the cousin of unemployment, Camp Art Space, Athens, Greece
Wie weit willst Du gehen? Pinacoteca, curated by Ursula Maria Probst, Vienna, Austria
Dada Restaurant, Art Athina, Independent Platform, Athens, Greece
Picture Show, Alabama Sir Raum, Leipzig, Germany
21 Posters by 21 Artists, Magazin Vienna, Vienna, Austria
- 2012 *Magic Bus*, curated by Tobias Pils, Museum Gironcoli, Austria
Abstraktion und Subtraktion, Galerie Lisa Ruyter, Vienna, Austria
Predicting Memories, Vienna Art Week, K.K. Telegraphenamt, Vienna, Austria
Up and Down and Up, VBKÖ Vienna, Austria
Paliano, Palais Liechtenstein, Feldkirch, Austria
- 2011 *Symbiosis - XI Biennale de la Mediterranée*, Thessaloniki, Greece
From erewhon to who knows when..., curated by Christian Egger, Kunstverein Schattendorf, Austria
Before the movies the paintings were like the movies, moe, Vienna, Austria
On Steep Waves (organized with Arie Amaya Akkermans) ReMap 3, Athens, Greece; Fluc, Vienna Art Week, Vienna, Austria
- 2010 *Sweet Anticipation*, curated by Övül Durmusoglu, Salzburger Kunstverein, Austria
Georg Eisler Preis – nominated artists, BA-Kunstforum, Vienna, Austria
Nachbilder (with Olivia Kaiser, Stefan Wirnsperger), Galerie Elisabeth Michitsch, Vienna, Austria
Und immer fehlt mir etwas und das quält mich, Kunstgruppe Köln, Germany
Neue malerische Positionen, Galerie Lukas Feichtner, Vienna, Austria
MAL X, Kunstraum Goethestraße, Linz, Austria
Unsichere Räume, Kunstraum flat 1, Vienna, Austria
- 2009 *Reden ist Silber Zeigen ist Gold*, Atelierhof Kreuzberg Berlin, Germany
Games, Kunsthalle Karlsplatz, Vienna
- 2006 *Real*, Kunsthalle Krems, Austria
Bon Appetit, Galerie Lisi Hämmerle, Bregenz, Austria

Selected Press & Publications

- 2020 "Power and Eroticism in Katherina Olschbaur's Paintings," *BerlinArtLink*, May 15
"Exploring Adoration, Worship, Heightened Awareness and Erotic Sensuality through the Body-Inhabited Objects of Desire with Katherina Olschbaur," *ArtMazeMag*, April 16

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- “Phantom Body: Weightless Bodies, Avatars, and the end of Skin,” *WHITEHOT*, April 28
“Katherina Olschbaur Subverts the Patriarchy with Sensual Delight,” *LAWeekly*, February 4
2019 “Katherina Olschbaur,” *PARNASS Kunstmagazin*, August 8, p. 10
2018 “Kat Olschbaur’s Solo Show ‘Wilde Reiter’ @ OOF Books,” *Autre.love*, April 19
2017 “Young artists about Vienna: ‘Quiet as a village,’” *derStandard.at*
2016 “Aufbruch in Ausgeglichenheit,” *Die Zeit: Kunst und Auktionen* 11, 2016
2015 *On Broncia Koller*, in: *The history of painting Revisited*, Project by Katrin Plavcak
2014 *Wenn das Öl noch nass ist*, article by Nicole Scheyerer, in *Falter* No 46/14 *Einblicke*,
Contemporary Art from the Illwerke collection, edited by Christa Häusler, Bucher Verlag
Über Malerei, Vienna: Akademie der bildenden Künste
Faistauer Preis 2014 für Malerei, Traklhaus Salzburg, catalogue
Portrait Szene Wien, feature by Ursula Maria Probst, in *Art Austria Magazine* 2014
2012 *Zwischenwelt Zeitschrift für Exilliteratur*, Cover, edited by Theodor Krame, Gesellschaft für
Exilliteratur, Vienna
Hotel Series Postcard Edition, with Martin Schnur, published by Helmut Marko
Schaufenster Portrait: Katherina Olschbaur, in *die Presse* 11/12
2011 *Basis Edition: Katherina Olschbaur*, on the occasion of the exhibition *Wicked Walls* at MUSA
Wien, with texts by Oona Lochner and Brigitte Felderer
Daniel Spoerri zu Katherina Olschbaur, text by Daniel Spoerri, on the occasion of
the exhibition *Schatten und Wirbel*, Museum Spoerri
Into deeper lands at open Sea, text by Marie Duhnkrack, on the occasion of the exhibition *Into
deeper lands at open sea*, Magazin Vienna
Vor Thessaloniki, Bcjem - Biennale of Young Artists of the Mediterranean Sea, edited by Mona
Hahn, published by Bmukk
2010 *Auf einmal tut sich eine Welt auf*, text by Elisabeth Krimbacher, in *Parnass* No 4/11
2007 *Ich ist ein anderer*, text and speech by Monika Helfer, on the occasion of the exhibition
Yussuf/Cermak Galerie Lisi Hämmerle, Bregenz, Austria
2006 *Contexxt Magazin*, Cover
Ö1 Talente Börse, Interview with Matthias Osiecki
Real, Kunsthalle Krems exhibition catalogue

Grants/Awards

- 2018 Painting Prize, Internationale Bodenseekonferenz, Switzerland
2016 Nomination Kapsch Contemporary Art Award, Mumok Vienna, Austria
2012 Appreciation prize for art and culture, County of Vorarlberg, Austria
2009 Theodor Körner Prize
Scholarship of the Anni und Heinrich Sussmann Foundation

2009 Tricky Women Honouring Award

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Residencies

- 2021 Black Rock Senegal, Dakar, Senegal
2017 Studio Residency, Red Gate Gallery, Beijing, China
Annexes Bourglinster Studio Residency, Luxemburg
2015 CCA - Andratx Studio Residency, Spain
2013 Hospiz Hotel Residency Arlberg, Austria
2011 Start-Award of the Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture, Bmukk, Austria
2-months working residency as guest of Panos Papadopoulos, Athens, Greece
2009 Paliano - Rome, Artist in Residency, Italy

Selected Public and Private Collections

Collection Angerlehner, Austria
Belvedere Museum, Vienna, Austria
Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection, Miami, Florida, United States
CC Foundation, Shanghai
City of Vienna, Austria
County of Vorarlberg, Austria
Illwerke Collection, Austria
Longlati Foundation, Hong Kong
Oskar Kokoschka Centre, University of Applied Arts, Vienna, Austria