



PRESS RELEASE

SOLO EXHIBITION WITH PETER DEPELCHIN

FOUNTAINS AND GARDENS - ONLINE EXCLUSIVE SHOW @ARTSY

7 AUGUST– 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

Husk Gallery is pleased to present the online solo exhibition ‘Fountains and Gardens’ at Artsy with Belgian artist Peter Depelchin. The online exclusive show features a representative ensemble of 14 unique drawings witnessing of Depelchin’s artistic research on fountains and gardens.

Fountains and gardens are central to Peter’s artistic universe. Especially the concept of the ‘Hortus Conclusus’ as both a compositional and metaphorical strategy got his attention. Similar to the empty space of a white sheet of paper, the contained space - acting like a theater - allows for an intermingling of illusion and reality. Depelchin’s interest in the enclosed garden (Hortus Conclusus) began with his discovery of a small allegorical painting in the Städelsches Kunstinstitut of Frankfurt. The small artwork, Paradiesgarten, c. 1410 by an anonymous German master, shows a scene with typical elements and archetypes of the enclosed garden: a tree, a fountain, the suggestion of evil defeated (a small dragon on its back), a table with garden fruit, a gallipot, birds, and flowers (lily of the valley, iris, etc.). The virgin is depicted three times in diverse attitudes: reading, scooping water, and playing music with the infant Jesus. This painting, likely referring to the locked garden described in Song of Songs, verses 4:12-15, and the Latin ‘Hortus Conclusus’ with baby Jesus surrounded by angels, propelled Depelchin to use the enclosed garden as a means to investigate the correlation between the represented space and the narrative it contains.

To this end, Peter started using the artistic trope of “divine perspective” to layer meaning from various visual traditions. This visual construction allows the combining of multiple approaches of space within one composition. Depending on how space is conceived, it adds symbolic meaning to the narrative and to the image itself. Making use of this trope, specifically as characterized in Flemish and Italian Renaissance art and Persian miniatures, Depelchin juxtaposes vantage points and symbolic characters to access the core of the human experience.

About the artist

Peter Depelchin (Ostend, 1985) grew up at the Belgian sea side, spent some years in Italy and New York and nowadays lives in Brussels. His artwork witnesses of these places and his trajectory has been characterized by an intense alternation of work, research, residencies and exhibitions.

Though mastering a bigger variety of media including printmaking, video and installation, drawing makes up the core of Depelchin’s artistic process. Inks on silk paper are used to finalize artistic projects while mixed media on paper encourages him to a more instinctive approach. Peter Depelchin embodies an organic processing of artworks, which permits him to (re)consider leitmotifs, thus stimulating auto-reference and reflection.

Depelchin tries to accomplish a new universal artistic language in correlation to the contemporary world. To this end, he decontextualizes and neo-contextualizes art-historical characteristics of aesthetics such as allegory, iconography, the use of patterns and approaches to the depiction of space.

Visit the Artsy Online exclusive show through following link:

<https://www.artsy.net/show/husk-gallery-peter-depelchin-fountains-and-gardens>

For further inquiries: info@huskgallery.com – Tel. +32 478 52 16 46 – www.huskgallery.com

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