

K A T R I N F R I D R I K S

Newsletter

September 2018

MARSEILLE - "Supreme Goddesses" Solo Show

Exhibition : From Sept 27 to Oct 27, 2018



David Pluskwa Art Contemporain

53 rue Grignan - 13006 Marseille

Public Opening: Wednesday 26 Sept. from 7 to 10pm

Exhibition running : from Sept. 27 to Oct. 27

For over ten years, *Katrin Fridriks* has explored fundamental notions of human experience, like growth, speed, movement, energy and gravity, through the means of painting. Her indepth explorations are as much concerned with the pictorial medium and its chemistry as with the movements of her own body. Looking for new forms, her quest brought her to forge new tools for painting without a brush and lead her to develop new body techniques. Although her search for new forms is deep and personal, her work also accounts for the current state of the world.

In *Supreme Goddesses*, *Fridriks* experiments with mask painting and sets herself a unique challenge: reworking her color mixes so they can stick (and hold) on surfaces that are not flat. The result is a surprising visual dialogue between form and color. *Supreme Goddesses* therefore counteracts the paradigms of planarity and abstraction, which Modernism considered essential for painting. At the same time, *Fridriks* breaks free from the fundamental dogmas of Abstract Expressionism, an art movement that was championed by Modernism. She thus also takes her distance with a form of art to which her work most clearly relates.

With mask titles referring to Greek gods and goddesses like Artemis, Gaia or Hermes, *Fridriks* opens the way for another reading: she evokes the Greek origin of Western art. The work paradoxically refers to sculpture rather than painting: As we now know, the whiteness that the great archeologist J.J. Winckelmann formerly associated with the "noble simplicity and silent majesty" of ancient art was misleading – as statues were in fact painted. Beyond the conceptual emancipation and playful mockery of modernist dogmas that they represent, *Fridriks*'s polychromatic faces draw a bridge between abstraction and ancient art history. The mask of Gaia is the thread that links the various dimensions and series. The choice to represent the goddess of the earth evokes the artist's concern for our planet.

The fact is that *Fridriks* increasingly tackles environmental issues in her works. While recent productions referred to the treatment of waste (Waste) and climate change (Emergency Blankets), *Oil-Spills vs. Bleached Corals* warns the viewers against environmental drifts causing the destruction of our ecosystems as well as the depletion of water resources. *America First*, a small series of paintings with sticks shaped like growing noses, speaks about the menace linked to men who care little about the truth and whose populist short-term policies are a danger for people everywhere in the world.

Fridriks' studio is a place to withdraw from the world only at specific times of the artist's creative process. The need for lonely moments of creation should by no means lead to reality denial. The artist shares her expectation with us: she wants viewers to go beyond the initial fascination for her art. We can then draw from the energy that her works contain and use it for positive impact on a world that desperately needs it. Oscillating between a formal painterly quest, a personal take on art history and a position on current matters, *Fridriks* work has a precise place in the contemporary world, without pedantry, it is both serious and playful. Her approach resolutely reflects the end of the second decade of the 21st century.

Dr. Klaus Speidel

[Latest press article XIBT Contemporary Art Magazine](#)

NEARBY BADEN BADEN - Kids Workshop



Circle Culture - Arts and Nature Social Club

While XOOOOX artist residency

Fridriks Abstract painting session : Sept. 2

For children from 6 to 12 yrs old

[Arts and Nature Social Club](#)

[PICTURES OF THE WORKSHOP](#)

DENVER - Crush Walls Mural Festival



Mirus Gallery - Juxtapoz ClubHouse

2750 Blake Street - RiNo Art District - Denver

Ended Sept. 9

Mirus' artists: Augustine Kofie, Katrin Fridriks, Crystal Wagner, Sickboy, Low Bros, Faith XLVI

Among other artists:
Shepard Fairey, PichiAvo, Cryptik, Poni, Smithe, Add Fuel, Nomad Clan, Roadsworth, Jaune and Laurence Vallieres

Pieces and artists selected by Juxtapoz curatorial team

Further details on [Juxtapoz.com](#)

BEIRUT - Beirut Art Fair



Artual Gallery - Booth A17

Seaside Arena Hall 3 - Downtown, New Waterfront

Art Collectors and VIP Preview:

Sept. 19 from 4 to 10pm
Public Days: Sept. 20 - 23

Artists presented:

Hense the name, Jean David Knot, Katrin Fridriks, George Morton Clarck, Rob Tucker, Ali Jebeile, Fadia Ahmad, Adam Parker Smith, Leah Guadignoli, Charlie Oscar Patterson

[Beirut Art Fair website](#)

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