KATRIN FRIDRIKS

Born in 1974 in Reykjavík (Iceland) Lives and works in Luxembourg

"Katrin Fridriks has developed her own, uniquely personal practice: by transferring the movement and speed of her gestures to the paint, she manages to capture the very act of painting, thereby turning the picture itself into an event. The experience of working in real space-time for her performance art and land art pieces, along with her drive for technical perfection, have ultimately given rise to this 'choreographical' painting process. Yet Fridriks does not simply contemplate her own experience; she makes paintings that reproduce this shifting mode of perception for visitors to the enclosed gallery space."

Friedericke Schafer, 2014

KATRIN FRIDRIKS

Site Specific Works and Commissions

Presentation by Klaus Speidel

Art critic & curator

Katrin Fridriks is an artistic researcher who explores speed, gravity, growth and the interaction of man and nature in different media.

Her notoriety is mainly based on her paintings and painterly installations, one of which is installed at the Nautical stadium in Nîmes, but connecting with land art has also been an important element in her work. Her painterly creations are often integrated into paintscapes, site-specific installation that exceed the limits of painting traditionally conceived.

We believe that there is a fundamental tension which explains the appeal of Fridrik's works: As they are based on the exploration of fundamental experiences, Fridriks creations are immediately captivating. Having different layers that unfold over time, each new contemplation is rewarding and gives way to discoveries.

Showcased among others in Venice in 2015 during the 56th Art Biennale and at the Reykjavik Art Museum, at the Arts Center in Seoul in 2013, as well as the Liverpool Biennale in 2008, her works are in public and private collections. Fridriks has also received commissions from Pictures On Wall in 2012, Michael Goss Foundation in 2011, Ralph Lauren in 2010, Bacardi Martini, Land Rover as well as the French Ministry for Youth & Sports in 2007. Fridriks regularly participates in auctions for charity and her creations often exceed estimations at Sotheby's, Phillips or Artcurial.

MAJOR THEMES

1/3

"You do not need to worry about any differences because you are the one who is in charge, the viewer must be able to realise that your work has to be perceived according to its specific expressive problems. You are on the dividing line between script and graphics, between the gestuality of the painter and semantics. It is a very interesting boundary but which must be accepted as such. It is a beneficial venture." (Pierre Restany in a conversation with Katrin Fridriks, 2003)

Fridriks artistic research focuses on the exploration of natural phenomena and the limits of human dexterity. Experimenting with both techniques and the strength and agility of her own body, Fridriks continuously pushes the limits of painterly expression. She has developed a set of different techniques in connection with her explorations many of which she now combines to create works of art that are unique.

Speed

Speed is one of the gravitational centres of Fridrik's work. Having performed technical and physical explorations like an athlete, she is now at a point where she is able to create an energy-loaded, complex painting in less than 2 seconds – after preparing herself and her colours for several days.



Waving Miracle - Magic Mind Detail 130 x 130 x 10 cm - 2016 acrylic on canvas



Waving Miracle - Magic Mind 130 x 130 x 10 cm - 2016 acrylic on canvas

MAJOR THEMES

2/3

Growth

For her Growth paintings, Fridriks drops one color like a seed of paint into another and watches it grow. She thus creates fractal structures that develop according to a mix between natural chemistry and the intentions of the painter. In order to achieve this effect, the paint is custom-made for the painter by a specialized company.



Stendhal Syndrome Detail 180 x 180 x 10 cm - 2008 acrylic on canvas



Stendhal Syndrome 180 x 180 x 10 cm - 2008 acrylic on canvas

MAJOR THEMES

3/3

Flow

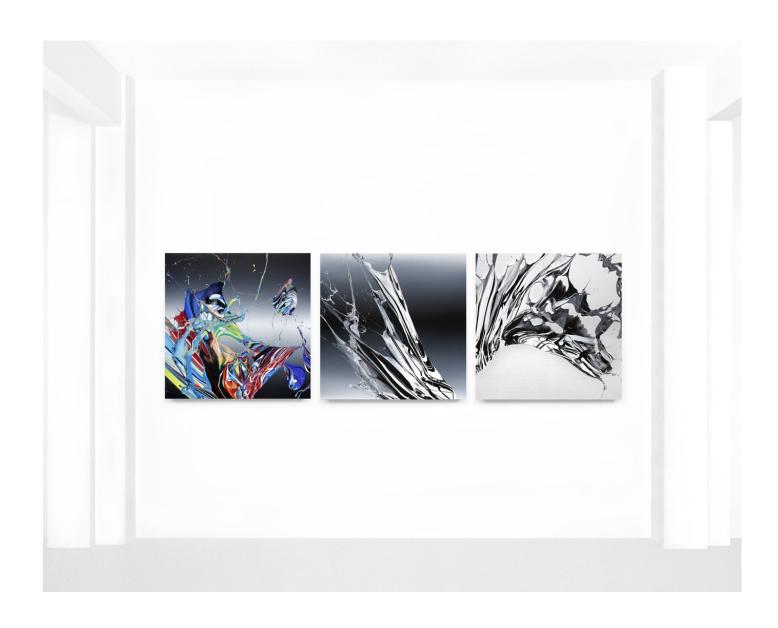
Flow experiences describe particular states during creative or physical activities, where time seems to extend and happiness ensues. But since Jackson Pollock, the flow (of paint) is also considered an essential element for creations like Fridriks' that leave behind the brush. Given her will to challenge herself, it comes as no surprise that Fridriks has augmented the ontology of flow, introducing new ways to use it. Experimenting with different types of paint, with varying degrees of thickness and elective affinities as well as various techniques to apply it, she has thus been able to create expanded lines, that she lets flow in streaks that don't mix, breaks or even stretches.



Riding Awareness - Molecule Messenger $230 \times 150 \times 10 \text{ cm}$ - 2013/2014 acrylic on canvas



Riding Awareness - Noble Eye-Catcher $200 \times 220 \times 19 \text{ cm}$ - 2014 acrylic on canvas



Supremacy of Cosmos - Interstellar $80 \times 260 \times 5 \text{cm}$ - 2018 acrylics on canvas - studio view





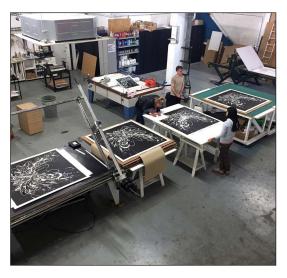
Forces of Interstellar Magic $130 \times 130 \times 10 \text{cm}$ (+ detail) - 2018 acrylics on canvas

MULTIPLES

As to keep her work accessible for young collectors, Katrin Fridriks produces rare prints for which she applies the same standards as for her unique works.

With this aim in view, she has collaborated with different studios known for the high quality of their productions leading to sharp results and refined prints. Thus, Lazarides Editions, Coriander Studio, Thumbprint Editions and POW (Banksy production) have developed with the artist complex screenprints using wide range of techniques, such as 8 (for the black and white print) or 14 layers of colour (for the colour print), embossing, silk-screened gold ink, selective varnish... in order to render all the subtleties of Fridrik's works.









See more about Multiples online

SITE SPECIFIC FORMS

Conceived as ephemeral or permanent, Fridriks site specific installations take six different forms: She worked several times on outdoor sites (in Iceland) in an artistic approach close to **Land Art (fig.1)**. Since, she creates **Paintscapes (fig.2)**, assembles large **Mosaics** of paintings or creates room-spanning **Alignments (fig. 3)**. Recently, one of her works has been transferred onto a **Light Box** that spans from the groundfloor to the loft of a building. Using techniques of high-definition, Fridriks develops **Enlargements** aspects of her works to create large-scale reproductions.



Fig.1 - Energy Flow 280 x 180 x 180 cm - 2004 installation



Fig.2 - Molecular Spaces Installation 170 x 170 x 170 cm - 2008 acrylic on canvas



Fig.3 - DNA of Crayons Detail of installation 420 $\times\,150$ $\times\,10\,$ cm - 2009 acrylic on canvas



Fig.3 - Riding Awareness - Icelandic Sky Walk Installation 260 \times 360 \times 20 cm - 2014 acrylic on canvas

CHOICE OF SITE-SPECIFIC PROJECTS

1/3

Cabapart - Luxembourg (2016 - 2017)

For the installation conceived for the Cabapart hotel in rue Phillipe II in Luxembourg, Katrin Fridriks decided to use different media and works on different themes, each fitted for the place where they are displayed and developing logically as the guests enter the building and walk up its stairs until they reach the penthouse. The works between the first and top floor were printed on light boxes and thus provide light for a space where natural light from the outside is not available. The visitors' discovery of the space in time is a central element of this work.

The installation begins in a the narrow corridor, opposite a glass front which is open towards a garden. For this space, Fridriks decided to create a work that literally mirrors its environment, thereby enlarging the space and acknowledging the presence of the garden outside. This playful first work invites visitors to directly interact with it as they play with their own reflection. It is therefore a good introduction to the works to come, that do not directly integrate spectators. This and the other works chosen for the ground level were made at high speeds and their energy reflects this. Their energy and their playfulness makes them a perfect starting point for the guests who come in from one of the busiest shopping streets of Luxembourg.

As the installation develops over three floors, visitors are then consecutively lead through images of flow, which still contain high amounts of energy, but have a slower pace until they arrive in a calm loft space, where they find works concerned with growth, and forms reminiscent of natural development.





KF Cabapart Prototype - 2016 - Scale 1:35 KF Cabapart

CHOICE OF SITE-SPECIFIC PROJECTS

2/3

Palazzo Bembo (2015)

In the context of the 56th Venice Biennale of the European Cultural Center - Palazzo Bembo, the artist created an installation with a large scale painting of 180x280cm and an enormous magnifying glass hanging from the ceiling. This allowed the viewers to take a distorted look at the painting, potentially inducing nausea. The explosive black and white paintings are part of a series of paintings on the Stendhal Syndrome, so named after the French writer and which describes an intense state of excitement and uneasiness which can be induced by seeing too many works of art. Fridrik's installation in Venice was not only conceived as representing the syndrome in question. It allowed visitors to experience something close to this condition.



Perception of the Stendhal Syndrome vs Gene&Ethics Master Prism Magnifying glass $170\times D70\times 10$ cm - 2014 Gene&Ethics Master Prism $180\times 280\times 10$ cm - 2014 Installation view

See video at Palazzo Bembo - Venice





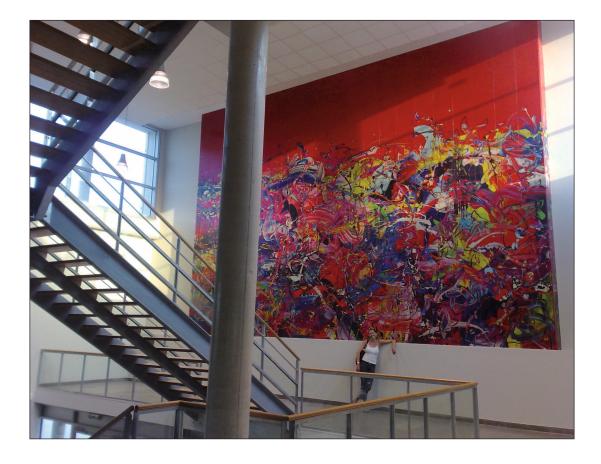
Perception of the Stendhal Syndrome View at Berlin - solo show - 2014

CHOICE OF SITE-SPECIFIC PROJECTS

3/3

Nautical Stadium of Nîmes (2007)

Sponsored by the French government and created for the Stade Nautique Nemausa in Nîmes, "Red Sea" is an Enlargement of large-scale fresco reproduction of one of Fridriks's paintings. Measuring 80 square metres in total, it depicts an overflowing, wild sea of paint. Charged with energy it is itself the creation of an artist who constantly pushes herself to the limits in order to create forms which had not existed before. In this sense, her presence in a place where a quest for excellence takes place is absolutely in tune with her own artistic endeavour.



Red Sea Fresco 800 x 1000 x 10 cm - 2008 Olympic Stadium of Nîmes

COMMISSIONS

Fridriks was commissionned by international brands such as **Ralph Lauren** (Fig. 1) in 2010, Bacardi Martini following her solo exhibition "Mangeurs d'étoiles" in 2007 at Museum Palais Bénédictine, in 2010 for the anniversary of **Land Rover** (Fig. 2) as well as **Ducati** (Fig. 3). She also produced specific works for the project **MTV Re:Define** at Michael Goss Foundation in 2011 and **at Dallas Contemporary Museum** (Fig. 4) in 2014. Some of her commissions were auctioned for charity at Phillips or Artcurial.



Fig.1 - RALPH LAUREN

"Art Stars" commissioned for Charity Teenage Cancer Trust
Phillips de Pury auction – London
2010



Fig. 2 - LAND ROVER
International Campaign Award "Land Rover 60 yrs" Defender SVX 1/25 edition
Artcurial auction, Salon de l'Automobile, Fouquet's – Paris



Fig.3 - DUCATI Acrylic on resin (Ducati petrol tank) 2009



Fig.4 - MTV RE:DEFINE at Dallas Contemporary Museum "Lollipop n1 Odyssey" - D90 x 9 cm - Paddle8 auction - Dallas 2014





Riding Awareness - Messenger Molecule $370 \times 250 \times 14$ cm - 2013 acrylic on canvas View at ART13 London & Circle Culture gallery Berlin

"Painting is steadily losing terrain for the very simple reason that it is considered too static by the virtual consumer. This staticity blocks its progress. The image of tomorrow that already captures our interest today is a television image: a flexible, mobile image on a fluid evanescent support.

Therefore, those who can still survive today and basically represent active nostalgia or conscience in this vision of your painting are those who manage to have a great memory for faces (of portraits for example) or those who, like you, manage to free pictorial writing or the pictorial gesture from this torpidity into which multimedia and television have plunged them."

Pierre Restany in conversation with Katrin Fridriks, April 15th 2003





Waste Exhibition view Berlin - solo show - 2018



Entheogenesis - Awakening Within $120 \times 120 \times 10 cm$ - 2018 acrylics on canvas

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Grey Area JD Malat Gallery London
- 2018 Waste Circle Culture Gallery (Gallery Weekend) Berlin
- 2017 Forces of Nature Dellupi Arte Gallery Milano
- 2016 Macrocosm Lazarides Gallery London
- 2015 New Wave & Gravity Circle Culture Gallery Hamburg
- 2014 Stendhal Syndrome Circle Culture Gallery Berlin
- 2014 Flying Awareness Lazarides Gallery London
- 2013 Art13 Circle Culture gallery London
- 2011 Mothernature Pascal Janssens Gallery Ghent
- 2011 Leak of Information Circle Culture Gallery Berlin
- 2010 Moniker Art Fair Circle Culture Gallery London
- 2007 Les Mangeurs d'étoiles Palais Bénédictine Fécamp

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Zona Maco JD Malat Gallery Mexico
- 2019 Art Karlsruhe Circle Culture Karlsruhe
- 2018 Bologna Arte Fiere Dellupi Arte Gallery Bologna
- 2018 Cape Town Art Fair Pascal Janssens Gallery Cape Town
- 2017 <u>Miniature Contemporary Museum Gemeente Museum</u>, Curators Ria & Lex Daniels – The Hague
- 2017 <u>Tech Open Air</u> "Solar Panel Art Series" The Beam -Little Sun Foundation - Berlin
- 2017 Circle Culture Gallery "Das Dasein" Berlin
- 2017 Circle Culture Gallery "Come Alive!" Hamburg
- 2016 Lazarides Gallery "Decade of Lazarides" London
- 2016 Helene Bailly "Abstract Masters" Paris
- 2015 Global Art Affairs Foundation & European Cultural <u>Center</u> "Personal Structures - Crossing Borders" Palazzo Bembo - Venice
- 2015 Reykjavik Art Museum "Just Painted II" Reykjavik
- 2015 Art International Istanbul CC Gallery Istanbul
- 2014 Art Vienna Circle Culture Gallery Vienna
- 2014 <u>Hangaram Art Museum</u> "The Great Artists: Renoir to Damien Hirst" Seoul Arts Center Seoul
- 2014 Museum Contemporary Dallas "MTV, Re:Define"
- 2014 Art Paris Helene Bailly Gallery Paris
- 2013 <u>Lazarides Gallery</u> At 180 Strand "Brutal" London
- 2013 Circle Culture Gallery "Potse68" Berlin
- 2013 Lazarides Gallery "Fresh Paint" London
- 2012 <u>Design Days</u> Stilwerk Design gallery Dubai
- 2012 Escape The Golden Cage Vienna
- 2012 Pret à Diner Royal Academy, CC Gallery London
- 2012 Charles Bank Gallery "Color" New York
- 2012 SF Artmrkt Fair Le Basse Projects San Francisco
- 2011 Soho House "The Urban Artist" CC Gallery Berlin
- 2011 <u>Forum Grimaldi</u> "40 ans de Pressionisme" Monaco
- 2011 Circle Culture Gallery "The Old Casino" Hamburg
- 2011 Vicky David Gallery "Inauguration" New York
- 2011 <u>Le Basse Projects</u> "The future is not what it used to be" Los Angeles
- 2011 <u>Michael Goss Foundation</u> "MTV Staying Alive" Future Tense, de Pury - Dallas
- 2010 Contemporary Art Center "Inauguration" Épinal
- 2010 Volta 6 Art Fair Circle Culture Gallery Basel
- 2009 TAG au Grand Palais Paris
- 2009 Sequence Art Festival Reykjavik
- 2008 Novas Contemporary Urban Center Liverpool
- 2008 Lost Horse Gallery "Independence Day" Reykjavik
- 2007 <u>Digital Experiences E-Arts</u> "Curator for Visual System", Fondation Lagardère Shanghai
- 2007 <u>Sequence Art Festival</u> Reykjavik
- 2006 <u>Rush art Gallery</u> "Paris is burning" Curated by Rashaad Newsome - New-York
- 2004 <u>Art Paris</u> Carroussel du Louvre "Energy Flow" JAG Gallery - Paris
- 2003 <u>City Hall of Paris</u> with the Australian Embassy "l'Art Emmêlé" Curators: Erick Öge & Jerome LeBerre Paris
- 1999 <u>Espace Paul Ricard</u> (Fondation Ricard) ArtCom 85 contemporary artists living in France & with the support of Gérard Garouste France

COMMISSIONS & GRANTS

- 2018 <u>Penguin Random House Cover</u> "Liquid" by the scientist Mark Miodownik / Royal Science Book Award - Publication September 2018 - England
- 2017 <u>Little Sun Foundation</u> in partnership with Beam Solar Panel Art Series Germany
- 2015 <u>Icelandic Art Center</u> Grants with the installation "Perception of the Stendhal Syndrome" at the Palazzo Bembo, 56th Venice Biennale - Iceland
- 2014 <u>Soho House</u> Group Permanent Collection Nick Jones Curated par Francesca Gavin - England
- 2014 <u>Dallas Contemporary Museum</u> "MTV Re: Define" Future Tense, de Pury Goss - Michael Foundation - USA
- 2008 <u>International Conference Transportation & Energy</u> "Made up war series" Iceland
- 2008 Trade Council of Iceland Grants for Liverpool exhibition
- 2007 Minister of Youth & Sports
 Fresco "Red Sea" 80m2 for the Olympic Stadium of Nîmes constructed by Bouygues
 & Architect BVL. Opening Ceremony: Prime Minister, Minister of Education of Youth & Sports
 Mr. François Fillon, Mme. Roselyne Bachelot Nîmes
- 2007 Museum of Palais Bénédictine
 Commissioned by Bacardi Martini: customized
 "special metal box" Bénédictine, International Edition
 for the occasion of the Personal Exhibition
 "Mangeurs d'étoiles" with guest of honor: Ambassador
 of Iceland in France
- 2003 Minister of Culture, Higher Education & Research "Face" with the support of Mme Erna Hennicot-Schoepges
 President of the European Institute Cultural Routes,
 Mme Josée Kirps, Director National Archives of the
 Grand Duchy of Luxemburg

PUBLICATIONS

- 2018 <u>Avant Arte</u> "Waste" special Edition numbered & signed Design: Cédric Pierre Netherlands
- 2018 Gaia Cover Transdisciplinary Journal for Scientists
- 2018 Supreme Goddesses Solo show France
- 2017 <u>Dellupi Arte</u> "Forces of Nature" Monographic Book & Solo show Design: Fridriks workshop Italy
- 2017 <u>Beam</u> "Solar Panels Art Series" Little Sun Foundation Germany
- 2015 Global Art Affairs Foundation & European Cultural
 Center "Personal Structures Crossing Borders"
 56th Venice Biennale
- 2015 <u>Reykjavik Art Museum</u> "Just Painted II" 80 Icelandic contemporary artists - Iceland
- 2015 "Stendhal Syndrome" Circle Culture solo show Germany
- 2014 <u>Hangaram Art Museum</u> "The Great Artists: Renoir to Damien Hirst" - Seoul Arts Center Korea
- 2013 <u>Fuchs Edition</u> "Women in Art. Master Pieces of Great Female Artists from Middle Ages to Modern Era" Volume 1 - Austria
- 2012 Salon der Gegenwart" (Salon der Gegenwart" Germany
- 2011 Gestalten "Walls and Frames" Germany
- 2011 <u>Circle Culture Art</u> "Leak of Information" solo show, special edition, signed & numbered Design: Freddy Fuss Germany
- 2010 <u>Circle Culture Art</u> "10th Anniversary" special Edition numbered & signed Design: Freddy Fuss Germany
- 2007 <u>Museum Palais Bénédictine</u> "Mangeurs d'étoiles" solo show France
- 2006 <u>Cercle Artistique du Luxembourg</u> "official selection" Grand Théâtre de Luxembourg
- 1999 <u>ArtCom Publication</u> CD-Rom of 85 contemporaries artists living in France & with support of Gérard Garouste - France

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