

Wilde

PRESS RELEASE

FABRICE GYGI

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WILDE GALLERY, Geneva

Wilde is pleased to present a new exhibition by Swiss artist Fabrice Gygi (b.1965, Geneva).

"Moderna," reads the inscription on the red tile roof of Fabrice Gygi's studio in Martigny. Not only is the image of this used for the invitation card, but it also functions as a curatorial program in itself. Fabrice Gygi's work developed over the last decade is intended as a return to the modernism of the first half of the 20th century. Known for his postmodernist works of the 80s and 90s, he is now looking for expressions that formally prevent any interpretation. There is no longer any meaning, to be given or read, but only forms, which most often are a declination of the Grid paradigm. Nonsense, as an absence of meaning and not as an absurd manifestation, is, in fact, a theme dear to the avant-gardes of the early 20th century. The most famous cantor is certainly Kazimir Malevich, who, for more than fifteen years, pursued and developed all the possible variations offered by grid painting compositions.

Fabrice Gygi's new series of watercolors plays on the psychological phenomenon of pareidolia, which consists of recognizing in a landscape or a non-figurative work, a known face or a familiar form. To avoid this pitfall, Gygi develops the deconstruction of meaning with a set of five artworks which, by successively adding simple strokes, cause the loss of all possible references, until arriving at a final form "free" of all meaning.

The six new wooden sculptures presented in the exhibition also pursue this research, while also freeing themselves, in space, from the question of composition. The tubular structure of each element is reproduced serially and then placed side by side. The sum of the parts thus gives an almost identical whole to each component. Here again, the meaning of the work, through its reproducibility and arrangement, disappears in favor of a form that seems infinitely modular.

Among the artist's latest exhibitions are *Sundown*, a group exhibition curated by Yann Chateigné, Art Bärtschi & Cie, Geneva, Switzerland (2018); *Qui canem necare vult eum rabiosum dicit*, Fabrice Gygi & Valentin Carron, Art Bärtschi & Cie, Geneva, Suisse (2018); *D-Concept*, galerie Chantal Crousel, Paris, France (2018); Galerie Francesca Pia, Zurich, Suisse (2017); Triennale d'Art du Valais, Manoir de la ville de Martigny, Martigny, Switzerland (2014); *Les églises*, Centre d'art contemporain, Chelles, France (2013); *20 ans déjà!*, galerie Guy Bärtschi, Geneva, Switzerland

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(2010); Istituto Svizzero di Roma, Italy (2010); *Projection de la vidéo Whip Fight*, galerie Guy Bärtschi, Geneva, Switzerland (2009); *San Stae Chapel*, Swiss Pavilion, 53rd edition of the Venice Biennale, Italy (2009); solo exhibition, Guy Bärtschi Gallery, Geneva, Switzerland (2008); Musée d'Art Contemporain, Marseilles, France (2007); Magasin 3, Stockholm Konsthall, Sweden (2006); Orange County Museum, Newport Beach, California, USA (2005); Kunstalle St Gallen, Switzerland (2005); Mamco, Geneva, Switzerland (2004); Centre PasquArt, Biel, Switzerland (2003); Sao Paulo Biennial, Brazil (2002); Musée d'art moderne et contemporain, Geneva, Switzerland (2001).

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