

#15

Lily van der Stokker

September 18 - December 31, 2020

mezzaterra11 - flat gallery is pleased to announce a solo exhibition of Lily van der Stokker (b. Den Bosch, Netherlands, 1954). van der Stokker has gained international renown since early '90s for her large-scale playful wall paintings in pastel and fluorescent colors with bold typography in the context of feminism. Borrowing flower motifs, repetitive plaid patterns and bubbly clouds often combined with witty words and visual vocabularies from commercial pop culture, the artist creates alluring wall painting installations - decorative, flat, and humorous - as a distinct soliloquy, challenging conventional and repressive social expectations of being a woman and an artist. Despite the gravity of the subject, van der Stokker instead unravels it blithely in the shape of impulsive drawings, cartoony lines, functional furniture, and frisky handwriting accompanied by massive colorful wall paintings - organic, domestic and friendly creatures - that somehow comfort our body. van der Stokker's work appropriates the visuals of an adolescent girl's doodles raising so-called adult questions - emotional, personal and practical - hardly dealt with in artworks in general. The artist, however, brings seemingly inappropriate topics into the public realm of art exuberantly and candidly with her sense of optimism in which she once said lightheartedly: "I'm decorating the art world as a good housewife might." Here van der Stokker presents "Female Friends" (2003), adapted for mezzaterra11 - flat gallery, together with the text written by the artist.

Lily van der Stokker lives and works in Amsterdam and New York. Selected solo exhibitions include: *Help Help a Little Old Lady Here*, Migros Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Zurich (2019); *Friendly Good*, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (2018); *Hammer Projects*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (2015); *Sorry, Same Wall Painting*, New Museum, New York (2013); *Terrible*, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam (2010); *No Big Deal Thing*, Tate St. Ives, Cornwall, UK (2010). Her work has been included in group exhibitions at numerous museums and institutions in the U.S.A. and Europe such as Centre Pompidou, Paris; New Museum, New York; Aspen Art Museum, Aspen; the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Bonnefontenmuseum, Maastricht; and Museum voor Moderne Kunst Arnhem, Arnhem. van der Stokker has completed monumental public art projects such as the *Celestial Teapot*, Hoog Catharijne, Utrecht (2013) and *Pink Building* during the World Expo in Hannover (2000).

mezzaterra11 - flat gallery is a conceptual project space that opens up new interpretations on documentation images of contemporary artworks, by creating meta-linguistic translation as a white cube is compressed to be flat. International artists are invited to present their work with one image that is selected, adapted, and ultimately, printed for the space as a format of a solo show.

mezzaterra11 - flat gallery
Via Mezzaterra, 11 32100 Belluno - Italy
www.mezzaterra11.com
info@mezzaterra11.com