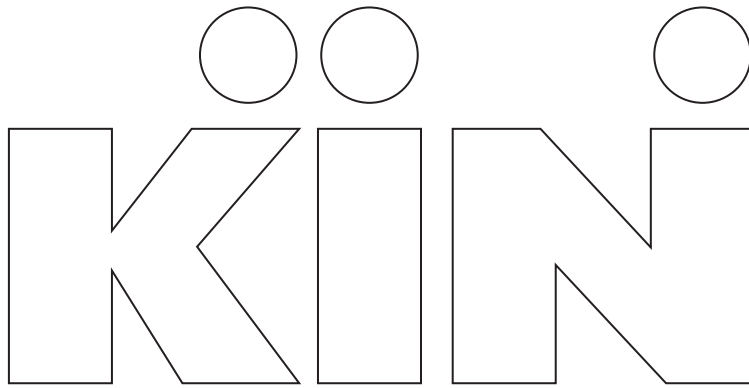




Michel Frère was born in 1961 in Brussels, and died in 1999 in Morlanwelz, Belgium

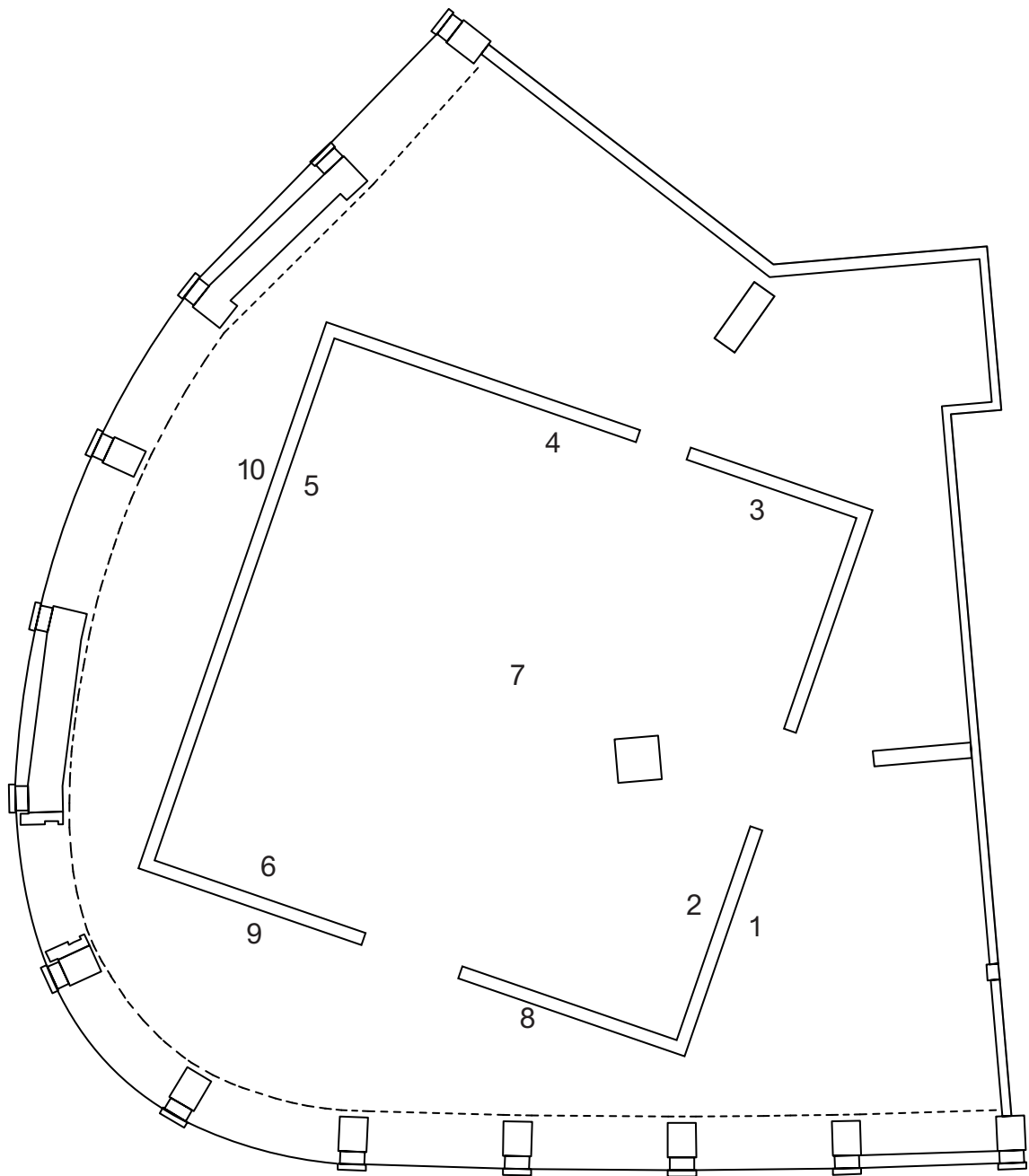
*This is one of the reasons the paintings are so thick.
They are an unending accumulation of errors and
disillusionments.*

Michel Frère

Michel Frère is a Belgian painter who had a meteoric career of 15 years that began in the mid-1980s and ended with his premature death at age 38 in 1999. At the outset he produced figurative works emblematic of the 1980s in Europe and the US. Soon he started to explore the material potential of painting by layering oil paint into animated sedimentation that combined seduction and abjection. He chose to frame them behind glass, creating a distance between the viewer and the work while integrating the viewer's gaze and what surrounds it through reflection. He was widely exhibited by major galleries in Europe and the US where he spent the last part of his short life. He was free, both rebellious and loyal, addicted to risk-taking and entirely dedicated to pushing painting into unexplored territories.

The exhibition at KIN brings together emblematic large-scale paintings, along with a sculpture, a number of smaller works, and archival material from his studio, offering a fuller sense of both Frère's practice and the period his work and life embody. The exhibition is a first attempt at a new reading of that work, based not only on its formal singularity but on the questions it carries, from informal art to queer culture.

Anne Pontégnie, 2026



- 1 *Untitled*, 1991,
Oil on paper,
60 x 52 cm
- 2 *Untitled*, 1994,
Oil on paper,
72 x 61 cm
- 3 *Untitled*, 1988,
Painted glass and oil on canvas,
180 x 165 cm
- 4 *Untitled*, Not dated,
Oil on board,
34 x 27 cm
- 5 *Untitled*, 1994,
Oil on canvas,
160 x 190 cm
- 6 *Untitled*, 1988,
Oil on canvas,
170 x 186 cm
- 7 *Bonhomme de neige*, 1990,
Patinated bronze,
102 x 57 x 40 cm
- 8 *Rick Hunter*, 1993,
Oil on canvas
25 x 35 cm

- 9 *Untitled*, 1999,
Oil on canvas,
119 x 190 cm
- 10 *Untitled*, 1998,
Oil on board,
107 x 102 cm