

GALERIE NÄCHST ST. STEPHAN ROSEMARIE SCHWARZWÄLDER

DANIEL KNORR Canvas Sculptures

November 14, 2020 – January 16, 2021

Opening: November 14, 2020, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The work of Daniel Knorr, who has participated in the documenta and Venice Biennale, is as broad as it is multifaceted. His installation and sculptural works, photographs, performances, and public art projects focus on sociopolitical and societal issues that range from biopolitics all the way to the art system.

Daniel Knorr's fourth solo exhibition in the gallery features three groups of works that have emerged out of his *Depression Elevations* series. Like *Depression Elevations*, the first series, called *Canvas Sculptures*, does not rely on a classic support. For these wall objects, Knorr employs a special technique in which he separates the painting from its ground – in other words, the canvas. The material he uses for this enables him to form and fold these three-dimensional works freely in all directions. Reinterpretations of modernism hint at different art historical elements expressed in the form of luminous colors on the smooth surfaces of these expansive wall objects.

The second series, called *Depression Elevations Berlin Wall Nuggets*, was created in 2020 and captures traces of the Berlin Wall and its surroundings. The artist sought out streets and places where the Wall constructed during the Cold War traversed and left marks. He collected forms of small depressions, which he used to make casts in his studio. The resulting small colorful objects made of synthetic resin loosely resemble the little pieces of the Berlin Wall often sold as souvenirs. As in other works in which he explores socio-political issues, here Knorr reacts to the history of this city, which continues to serve as a symbol of decades of global conflict, by reuniting previously separated elements in a material form that is both physically perceptible and surprisingly sensuous.

In the third series, *Drippings*, which was also created this year, Knorr reverses his working method for *Depression Elevations*. In place of a depression, he begins with the smooth surface of a glass plate, adding colorful liquids that take on the shape of the glass's movements until they finally run over and form drop deposits resembling a miniature stalagmite landscape. The resulting round works are reminiscent of cells, biological structures, or colorful pufferfish. Behind the industrial surface, on the backside of the work, so to say, objects and structures evolve that represent a world that appears to be growing together but is still strange to us. Perception of these works resembles a scientific research project in which we discover new forms, structures, and connections that are hermetically sealed in their microcosm, out of our reach.

DANIEL KNORR, born in Bucharest in 1968, lives and works in Berlin and Hongkong.

In 2017 he participated at the documenta 14 in Kassel and Athens and in 2005, Knorr represented Romania at the 51st Venice Biennale.

Selected exhibitions: 2020 Kunsthalle Tübingen (solo) 2019 Art Basel Unlimited, Basel (solo); Kunstmuseum Bonn; Arter, Istanbul 2018 Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn 2017 Pinakothek der Moderne – Sammlung Moderne Kunst, Munich (solo); Bass Museum of Art, Miami (solo); Kunstverein Hamburg; Kestnergesellschaft, Hannover; Sprengel Museum Hannover; Kunstmuseum Bonn; Lenbachhaus, Munich 2016 DOX Centre for Contemporary Art, Prague 2015 Kunsthaus Zürich, Zurich 2013 Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; Musée d'Art Contemporain, Marseille 2012 Kunsthalle Wien Karlsplatz, Vienna (solo) 2011 Romanian Cultural Institute and Färgfabriken, Stockholm (solo) 2010 Kunstverein Arnsberg (solo); Centre Pompidou, Paris; Lodz Biennial, Lodz; 2009 Kunsthalle Basel (solo); Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw (solo); Artspace, Auckland (solo) 2008 Fridericianum, Kassel (solo).

His works can be found in a number of international collections, including the bank collections J. P. Morgan, Hongkong, Erste Bank Collection, Vienna, EZB Bank, Frankfurt; Folkwang Museum, Essen, Kunsthalle Bremen, Kunstmuseum Bonn (KiCo Collection), Lenbachhaus, Munich, Migros Museum, Zurich, MuHKA Antwerp, Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw, Nasher and Haemisegger Collection, Dallas, Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich, Federal Collection of Contemporary Art of the Federal Republic of Germany, and Vehbi Koç Foundation, Istanbul.

