

PAINTING BETWEEN THE LINES

Lower Galleries

October 04, 2011 to December 17, 2011

With *Painting Between The Lines*, the CCA Wattis Institute will continue its investigation into the relationship between literature and art by commissioning 14 contemporary artists to create paintings based on descriptions of paintings in historical and contemporary novels.

Artists include:

Laylah Ali

Thomas Mann, *The Magic Mountain*

Michaël Borremans

Günter Grass, *The Tin Drum*

Marcel Dzama

Haruki Murakami, *Kafka on the Shore*

Cecilia Edefalk

August Strindberg, *The Red Room*

Jordan Kantor

Albert Camus, *Exile and the Kingdom*

Michael van Ofen

Umberto Eco, *The Name of the Rose*

Laura Owens

Sylvia Plath, *The Bell Jar***Clare Rojas**

Marcel Proust, *Swann's Way*

Wilhelm Sasnal

Milan Kundera, *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*

Maike Schoorel

Daphne du Maurier, *Rebecca*

Raqib Shaw

Fyodor Dostoevsky, *The Brothers Karamazov*

Norbert Schwontkowski

Oscar Wilde, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*

Fred Tomaselli

Samuel Beckett, *Watt*

Jakub Julian Ziolkowski

Sándor Márai, *Embers*

Through an examination of how contemporary artists look at storytelling, literature and writing as expressions of individual thought, **Painting Between The Lines** looks into the state of contemporary painting today and attests to the vitality of the medium, presenting some of its most innovative practitioners. The artists in the exhibition work across a number of different forms and styles and are primarily based in Europe and the United States.

Even though writing and painting have been connected throughout history, literature has of late become a diminished subject in the medium of painting, which has looked more to history, society, politics and itself for inspiration. Through reintroducing literature as a viable subject for painting, this exhibition looks at the relationship between these two artistic fields, their different modes of representation, the various ways text can be translated into image, and how they both, in unique ways, have the ability to elicit a response from those who engage with them.

The choice of the novels has been central to the commissioning process. Many of these imagined paintings have been envisaged in exhaustive detail, they inform the texture of the novels and provide background details, while others play a pivotal role in plot or character development. However, while the descriptions of these paintings may be vivid, they remain open to interpretation in their physical form by the artists.

Painting Between The Lines is traveling to the **Williams College Museum of Art** February 16 - June 9, 2013.

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