Crèvecœur

Tamara Henderson, France-Lise McGurn, Alissa McKendrick, David Salle, Louise Sartor *The Old Things*01.07.16 — 23.07.16

The existence of images is increasingly uncertain and on a massive scale, submitted to an unlimited eye consumerism. Some parameters – duration/area – have taken a decisive turn after the exponential development of technologies, giving rise to new cultural practices that are constantly overthrowing the established aesthetic codes.

The title refers to Henry James's novel: The Spoils of Poynton (1887) - which is about beauty, love and morals in art - but The Old Things was the first name that the author gave to his book. The exhibition pictures the material conditions of existence and fetishization of the images and the subtle relation between their beingness and their disappearance.

The painting, ancient tradition and complex technique is confronted to eyes toughen up by time through history of art. Tirelessly put in doubt, to the test, it takes more and more hybrids, unexpected and disparate forms.

The Old Things gathers four artists around a male nude of David Salle, an iconic work of art dating back to his first exhibition in 1981 at Mary Boone Gallery in New York. France-Lise Mc Gurn, Louise Sartor, Tamara Henderson and Alissa McKendrick use painting as an instrument to seize precarious images.

If their practice fits into the tradition of painting, they differ by each in singular ways: paintings on the floor, walls, unexpected shapes of canvas, fragments of torn paper. The exhibition features women artists from the same generation and an artist, who thirty years earlier, had push back the codes of representation.