

Wolfgang Tillmans

1 October – 11 December 2010
Opening Reception on Friday, 1 October, 7-9 p.m.

In his tenth solo exhibition at Galerie Daniel Buchholz, his first in the Berlin gallery, Wolfgang Tillmans shows an installation of his most recent works. After Wolfgang Tillmans' previous exhibitions were mainly focused on abstract pictures and works dealing with the material or object-like aspects of photography, his gaze is now directed more to an "outside" again. Following on from his earlier work but less focused on his immediate social environment, these new works which were to an extent also done during his travels, combine urban and rural life in a world that appears as globalized and dominated by technology. Depicting these constraints and moving within different realities is something that is important to the artist in this new work. A new color sensibility that is discernible here has its source on the one hand in a perceived as having changed and more futuristic surface of the world, but can on the other hand also be seen as a development immanent in the artist's work, a transference from the colors of his abstract pictures.

"This literary quality comes from diving into various social and personal narratives, but also from suddenly coming down (...) to revelations of the abstract, the concealed and the pure matter of photography, or even of light itself. It could also be called a fictional quality. As an observer standing in one of his exhibitions, I often feel that there is a moment when, almost automatically, my brain will start perceiving a narrative pattern in his work. Perhaps the best way to describe this pattern is as a new, completely reinvented science fiction – the result of Tillmans' idea of dealing with the contemporary situation through a permanent attack of extremely diverse imagery. This definition of his work as a reconsideration and transformation of science fiction is put forward in the context of the development of contemporary definitions of fiction writing, where fiction is not a completely invented structure, but more a transformation of real or daily events, recombined or sometimes appearing in a transgressive perspective."

Josef Strau, "Alongside the abstract plane, dots and bangs of latent evidences and true relativity exposed", Wolfgang Tillmans, exh. cat. Serpentine Gallery, Koenig Books, London 2010