

Hopeless Romantics

13. 7. - 22. 8. 2021

Artists: Leda Bourgogne, Henrik Olai Kaarstein, Tobias Spichtig, Alex Turgeon, Raphaela Vogel

Curator: Kristian Vistrup Madsen

Venue: Centre for Contemporary Art FUTURA, Holečkova 49, Praha 5



Installation view, Henrik Olai Kaarstein and Leda Bourgogne (Photography: Jan Kolský).

Here, romanticism names a riposte to science, enlightenment and rationality; a privileging of depth and complexity over clarity and progress. This comes out of a frustration with the triumph of literalness in art; the demand that it should signify, like language, be useful, or moral. Against this literalness, I posit allegory: against identity, existentialism. In these artists' work we find thrownness – a battle with existence as a position of being outside, unsheltered – indulgence, longing, melancholy and power.