

# KUNSTVEREIN IN HAMBURG

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Michel Majerus - DATA STREAMING**

#### **Soloexhibition**

#### **Part of the exhibition series *Majerus 2022***

**12.11.2022 - 12.2.2023**

*DATA STREAMING* features a series of works by Michel Majerus (1967–2002), produced during the latter stages of his career, in which he intensively negotiated the rising prominence of the digital within late-1990s and early-2000s visual culture. In this body of work, Majerus overlays figurative and abstract painterly elements drawn from the emerging digital image-production technologies of the time, adopting the formal language, capabilities, and motifs of post-production software such as Adobe Photoshop and translating them to canvas. As an avid user of technology and an active participant in digital culture, Majerus features a number of icons, both real and virtual, from video games, animation, and hacking in his work—for instance, he depicts the hacker Tron (1972–1998), and characters from *Space Invaders*, *Donkey Kong*, and *Super Mario*, among others. Combining such references with a wider range of imagery sampled from contemporary art and art history, he fuses an intricate network of visual and thematic references with methods of image-production to create smaller-format, large-scale, or multipanel paintings.

*DATA STREAMING* also includes Majerus' key installation *the space is where you'll find it* (2000), centrally positioned within the exhibition. This immersive installation exemplifies Majerus' synthesis of new and existing aesthetic strategies from the worlds of painting, installation, and conceptual art, enveloping viewers in an analogue cosmos of digital images. By bringing paintings and installation together in the present, *DATA STREAMING* asks how to view, understand, and interpret Majerus' oeuvre through the prism of technological and artistic developments made in the last 20 years.

*DATA STREAMING* is part of a series of exhibitions that will look at Michel Majerus' oeuvre anew to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the artist's passing, with solo presentations hosted at KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Neuer Berliner Kunstverein, the Michel Majerus Estate, and at neugerriemschneider. In parallel, thirteen museums throughout Germany will showcase works by Michel Majerus from their collections.

## **CV**

The extensive oeuvre of Michel Majerus (1967–2002) is an early example of an artistic engagement with the then emerging digital age. Characteristic of his work is sampling, in which the artist takes motifs from a wide variety of contexts and creates works that have since become part of art history, but also enter into dialogue with the exuberant pictorial worlds of today.

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Works by Majerus have been shown in solo exhibitions at international museums and institutions, including Kunsthalle Bielefeld, Bielefeld (2018); CAPC musée d'art contemporain de Bordeaux, Bordeaux (2012); Kunstmuseum Stuttgart, Stuttgart (2011); Mudam, Luxembourg (2006); Kunsthaus Graz, Graz; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; Deichtorhallen, Hamburg; Kestner Gesellschaft, Hannover (all 2005); Tate Liverpool, Liverpool (2004); Hamburger Bahnhof - Museum für Gegenwart, Berlin (2003); and Kunsthalle Basel, Basel (1996). Majerus participated in the 48th Venice Biennale (1999) and Manifesta 2 (1998).

Media Partner:



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