

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Josef Strau

Ulysses

September 21 – October 22, 2022

8th Floor

For his sixth solo exhibition at Greene Naftali, Josef Strau presents a new group of tin and wire works on canvas—approximations of paintings, as the artist describes them. Made from thin sheets of metal plied into ridges and furrows and soldered into place, the works' varied textures and visible fastenings assert their own topography. Strau heightens that link to landscape through a horizontal orientation: splayed out like a map, each painting evokes other kinds of lateral movement, like daily circuits through the city. An artist-writer who typically pairs his visual practice with printed texts, here Strau's narrative accompaniment has been condensed to the exhibition's one-word title, *Ulysses*. Detaching the proper name from its specific import to mythology and modernist literature, the artist recasts it instead as an attempt to dispel the recurrence of his individual Ulyssesness.

Josef Strau lives and works in New York. Recent solo exhibitions include Kunstverein für die Rheinlande und Westfalen, Düsseldorf (2020); Greene Naftali, New York (2018, 2012); Künstlerhaus Bremen (2017); Secession, Vienna (2015); The Renaissance Society, University of Chicago (2014); and Malmö Konsthall, Sweden (2008). Significant recent group exhibitions include Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn (2022); the Busan Biennale, Busan, South Korea (2020); Neues Museum Nürnberg (2020); Kunsthalle Bern (2017); Centre Pompidou, Paris (2016); mumok, Vienna (2015); Statens Museum for Kunst, Copenhagen (2014); the Liverpool Biennial (2014); Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin (2013); Generali Foundation, Vienna (2012); and SculptureCenter, Long Island City, New York (2011).

His work is in the collections of the Bundeskunstsammlung – The Federal Collection of Contemporary Art, Germany; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; and the ZKM Center for Art and Media, Karlsruhe, Germany.