



Flora Klein, *Slit*
June 21 - July 20, 2024

The Green Gallery
1500 N Farwell Ave
Milwaukee, WI

What's in a name?

One wouldn't expect cynicism from someone named Flora Klein. The name is earnest. Literally translated as "small flora" into English, an exhibition of works by the Swiss painter Flora Klein already starts off on an optimistic foot. Flora makes "good painting".

On the other hand, having studied in Vienna, and developing her career in Germany, it is hard (for any young artist) to escape the processual similarities with "bad painting".

Another Klein (also with Viennese history): the psychoanalyst Melanie Klein. In Klein's play and object theory, the ego undergoes a 'splitting' of the ego into good or bad, via the splitting of an external object, namely the mother's breast. The infant thus creates two mental images; the 'good breast' and the 'bad breast'. Flora's lively work is situated as "good" painting. What you see is what you see and it's what you get. No allusions to a decaying value system. Her paintings are to be judged by their own parameters, which in 2024 is no small feat.

Another Klein: this time, the German mathematician Felix Klein. The Klein bottle is – in topology (a branch of mathematics) – a one-sided surface which, if traveled upon, could be followed back to the point of origin while flipping the traveler upside down. It has no boundaries. For comparison, a Moebius strip has boundaries and a sphere does not. Flora Klein's compositions are topological and the orthogonal frame that contains them by no means acts as a boundary to their internal space.

These paintings have a joyful resonance, eager and inviting. Can we really reconstruct the process that led to the painting's final image? Her paintings reach a point of completion while indicating they could, and should continue. The age-old Ab-Ex conundrum of knowing "when to stop" becomes here, another knowledge: intangible and present. The ability to tolerate ambiguity prevails.

-Amanda Schmitt

The Green Gallery 1500 N Farwell Ave Milwaukee, WI 53202



Flora Klein
Catch Center, 2024
oil on canvas
51.18h x 78.74w x 1.06d in
130h x 200w x 2.70d cm

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Flora Klein
Untitled, 2024
oil and spray paint on canvas
45.28h x 70.87w x 1.06d in
115h x 180w x 2.70d cm

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Flora Klein
Saliva, 2017-2024
acrylic, oil and spray paint on canvas
51.18h x 66.93w x 1.57d in
130h x 170w x 4d cm

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Flora Klein

Chain Mail, 2024

acrylic, oil and spray paint on canvas

70.87h x 45.28w x 1.06d in

180h x 115w x 2.70d cm

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Flora Klein
Slit, 2024
acrylic and oil on canvas
51.18h x 78.74w x 1.06d in
130h x 200w x 2.70d cm

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Flora Klein
Bohrinsel, 2020-2024
acrylic and oil on canvas and artist frame
41.73h x 57.28w x 1.06d in
106h x 145.50w x 2.70d cm

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Flora Klein

Lives and works in Berlin

Education

- 2022 MA Critical Studies, Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna, AU
- 2013 BA Fine Arts, ECAL, Lausanne, CH

Solo Exhibitions

- 2024 The Green Gallery, Milwaukee, USA. (Forthcoming)
Heat, Kunsthhaus Glarus, Glarus, CH
- 2023 Lichten, with Valentina Triet, NEST, Zurich University of the Arts, Zurich, CH
- 2022 Flora Klein, Downs & Ross, New York, USA
- 2021 Flora Klein, Galerie Max Mayer, Dusseldorf, DE
Das Band, Flora Klein, Miriam Visaczki, Lars Friedrich, Berlin, DE
- 2020 Flora Klein, Samuel Jeffery, Christian Andersen Gallery, Copenhagen, DK
- 2019 Flora Klein, Shoefrog, Vienna, AU
- 2018 Flora Klein, Tiphonie Kim Mall, TREIZE, Paris, FR
- 2017 Flora Klein, Lars Friedrich, Berlin, DE
- 2016 Flora Klein, Galerie Max Mayer, Dusseldorf, DE
My Eyes, Oracle, Berlin, DE
- 2015 Eine Hängung / A Hanging, Poggibonsi, Zürich, CH
Flora Klein, Marbriers 4, Geneva, CH
- 2014 VV, The Green Gallery West and The Ski Club, Milwaukee, USA
- 2013 Flora Klein, Piper Keys, London, UK

Select Group Exhibitions

- 2024 Finalist exhibition, Swiss Art Awards 2024, hall 1.1 Messeplatz, Basel, CH
- 2022 Flatland, curated by Rachal Bradley and Inka Meissner, Galerie Gregor Staiger, Zürich, CH
- 2020 Salon Solaire, Suns.Works, Zürich, CH
- 2019 Super Erotic Group Show, 8.Salon, Hamburg, DE
- 2018 Kiefer Hablitzel Sektor, Swiss Art Awards 2018, hall 3.0, Messeplatz, Basel, CH
- 2017 From Berlin with Love, Instituto Svizzero, Rom, IT
Somebodys Bedside Table, organized by BPA (Berlin Program for Artists), Between Bridges, Berlin, DE
All Men by Nature Desire to Know, curated by Joshua Lockwood, Bonington Gallery, Nottingham, UK
- 2016 Edith Deyerling, Flora Klein, Miriam Visaczki, Christian Andersen, Copenhagen, DK
Unter 30 XI. Junge Schweizer Kunst. Kiefer Hablitzel Preis 2016, Le Commun BAC, Geneva, CH
Stuttgart, organized by Lars Friedrich, Galerie Francesca Pia, Zürich, CH

Undisturbed Solitude, curated by Chus Martínez, with Tiphonie Mall, Emil Klein, Johannes Willi,
Kunsthau Hamburg, DE

The Way of The Novel, Oracle, Berlin, DE
2015 X is Y, Sandy Brown, Berlin, DE

Projects

2021- Filmclub der polnischen Versager*innen, film club organized with Elisa R. Linn and Tiphonie
2024 Mall, Berlin, DE

2020-
2024 Artistic direction at MÄDEA, intercultural center for girls and young women, Berlin, DE

2014
-2022 Curbit, collaboratively organized festival for experimental music and art, <http://curbit.ch/>

2014 Walks News, exhibition series, organized together with Samuel Jeffery, Berlin, DE,
-2018 <http://walks-news.com>

2011
-2014 Galerie 1M3, with Stéphane Barbier-Bouvet, Jeanne Graff, Benjamin Valenza, Lausanne, CH

2009
-2012 Galen, projectspace organized together with Emil Klein and Kaspar Müller, Basel, CH

Awards and Grants

2018 Käthe-Dorsch & Agnes-Straub Stiftung, Berlin, DE
Fondation Thorens, Basel, CH

2016 Kiefer Hablitzel / Göhner Art Prize for Swiss artists under 30

2014 Berlin artist residency awarded by Kanton Wallis, CH

Publications

2024 Flora Klein, Heat, Kunsthau Glarus, VfmK Verlag für modern Kunst, Vienna (AU). Design:
Yvonne Quirnbach, (forthcoming)

2017 Flora Klein, Selected Works, published by Galerie Max Mayer, Düsseldorf (DE). Design: Dan
Solbach

2016 Ausstellung, Flora Klein, Emil Klein, Peter Klein, exhibition catalogue, self-published. Design:
Sarah Leugger
Unter 30 XI. Junge Schweizer Kunst. Kiefer Hablitzel Preis 2016, Verlag für Moderne Kunst,
Vienna (AU).

Bibliography

2023 Flora Klein „Heat“ at Kunsthau Glarus, Mousse Magazine,
<https://www.moussemagazine.it/magazine/flora-klein-kunsthau-glarus-2023/>
Glauner, Max. Hélène Fauquet / Flora Klein / Sammlung Egger – Schatzkasten, Kunstbulletin
10/2023,
<https://www.kunstbulletin.ch/magazin/kunstbulletin-102023/helene-fauquet-flora-klein-sammlung-egger-schatzkasten>
Hélène Fauquet „Phenomena“ / Flora Klein „Heat“, e-flux announcements,
<https://www.e-flux.com/announcements/509528/helene-fauquetphenomenaflora-kleinheat/>
Kock Marti, Claudia. Das Kunsthau Glarus zeigt abstrakte Malerei von Flora Klein,
Südostschweiz, 08.07.2023

- Hauser, Eduard. Kunsthaus Glarus: Die Arbeiten von Flora Klein, Glarner Agenda, www.glarneragenda.ch/PJjJv2
„Heat“ im Kunsthaus Glarus: Flora Kleins erste Überblicksausstellung in der Schweiz, <https://www.siebenbuerger.de/zeitung/termine/22539-heat-im-kunsthhaus-glarus-flora.html>
- 2022 Kommos, Paula. Reciprocity That Grooves: Flora Klein, Passe-Avant, passe-avant.net/reviews/reciprocity-that-grooves-flora-klein-max-mayer-paula-kommos
Artforum, artguide, <https://www.artforum.com/artguide/downs-ross-15088/flora-klein-210251>
- 2021 Klein, Flora. Schmutzlis in the Village in: Big Critical Energy, Huber/Ludwig/Zabric. Schleebrügge.Editor, Vienna (AU)
Flora Klein at Galerie Max Mayer. Contemporary Art Daily, <https://www.contemporaryartdaily.com/project/flora-klein-at-galerie-max-mayer-dusseldorf-20865>
- 2020 Kaufmann, Meret. Words: Flora Klein, Galerie Max Mayer, <https://www.maxmayer.net/artists/flora-klein/5>
Flora Klein, Samuel Jeffery at Christian Andersen, Contemporary Art Daily, <https://contemporaryartdaily.com/2020/09/samuel-jeffery-flora-klein-at-christian-andersen/>
- 2019 Klein, Flora. Finally Lee!, Missy Magazine, <https://missy-magazine.de/blog/2019/11/11/finally-lee/>
- 2018 Roeschmann, Dietrich. Flora Klein, die Malerin erkundet den Raum zwischen Skizze und Bild, Artline, <https://artline.org/2018/06/15/flora-klein/>
- 2017 Martínez, Chus. The wildest generalization of all that exists, Flora Klein, Selected Works Molitor, Noemi. Mit eigenwilligem Auge: Flora Klein, TAZ, <http://www.taz.de/!5446997/>
- 2016 Kaufmann, Meret. Kiefer Hablitzel Preis 2016, Verlag Moderner Kunst
Stead, Chloe. Undisturbed Solitude, Frieze, <https://www.frieze.com/article/undisturbed-solitude>
Martínez, Chus. Undisturbed Solitude, e-flux, <https://www.e-flux.com/announcements/11674/emil-michael-klein-flora-klein-tiphonie-mall-johannes-williundisturbed-solitude/>