

# Edition VFO

## Gardens of Dreams

Opening: Friday, February 7, from 6 pm to 8 pm

Exhibition: February 8 to May 3, 2025



Albrecht Schnider, Untitled 1 and Untitled 2, lithography on BFK Rives, each 70 x 50 cm

The exhibition “Gardens of Dreams” brings together six artistic positions that explore gardens as sites of imagination, transformation and sensuality. Lorenza Longhi, Thi My Lien Nguyen, Maya Rochat, Albrecht Schnider, Annelies Štrba and Urban Zellweger examine the interplay of plants, flowers and organic forms as carriers of memory, symbolism and cultural narratives. Their works oscillate between printmaking, photography, painting and installation, creating layered visual spaces that shift between natural landscapes and artistic constructions.

Lorenza Longhi’s new silkscreen series engages with the mechanisms of reproduction and consumer culture. Her floral motifs, based on handcrafted sculptures, are punctuated by camera lenses – a critical reflection on the omnipresence of surveillance and commodification. Inspired by Andy Warhol’s floral works and Elaine Sturtevant’s critical engagement with reproduction and authorship, Longhi’s works similarly examine the fragility of the original in the age of endless reproducibility.

Thi My Lien Nguyen combines photography, colored passe-partouts, and poetry in her edition “Untitled (compassion)” to create a poetic meditation on migration, identity and belonging. Her images depict exotic fruits that evoke memories of home, yet in a globalized present, they never appear entirely authentic. Through this, Nguyen explores the longing for belonging and the attempt to forge a connection between past and present through visual and material references.

Maya Rochat’s offset and direct flatbed prints on silver paper are based on manipulated slides of protected Swiss flower species. Through chemical processes and digital editing, she creates color-saturated, almost psychedelic compositions that blur the boundaries between natural and

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artistic aesthetics. The new editions are presented against a wallpaper installation from her “Living in a Painting” series, inviting an immersive reflection on visual experience. Additionally, the artist presents, for the first time, a large-format photographic work produced at the Zurich Print Institute.

Albrecht Schnider presents two new lithographs that balance precision with spontaneity. His depictions of roses in warm and cool tones reflect his long-standing engagement with the formal reduction of natural motifs. The distinct linework and layered color fields lend the works a sculptural quality.

Annelies Štrba creates a dreamlike landscape of luminous floral fields with “momoka”. Her digitally processed pigment prints on canvas unfold a unique color palette, oscillating between photographic realism and painterly abstraction. Inspired by her surroundings in Amden and Monte Verità, Štrba reflects on the magical dimensions of nature and its cyclical transformations.

Urban Zellweger navigates between everyday observation and surreal dreamscapes in his narrative lithographs. His empty, fragmented scenes – a deserted park, a hybrid figure with butterfly wings, a snail with a clown’s nose – invite individual interpretation. His works play with ambivalences between kitsch and melancholy, humor and unease, examining how images generate meaning.

The exhibition “Gardens of Dreams” invites us to consider gardens not only as physical spaces but also as imagined landscapes – spaces where nature and artifice, memory and vision merge. The presented works encourage an exploration of the poetic power of plants and organic forms while reflecting on their significance in a constantly shifting and fragile environment.

For image and press inquiries, please contact David Khalat at [info@vfo.ch](mailto:info@vfo.ch).