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PRESS RELEASE

Fleurs du mal

Elizabeth Jaeger, Sang Woo Kim, Morten Knudsen, Chris Oh, Barbara Wesolowska, Tommy Xie

February 14 - March 15, 2025

Opening Reception: Friday, February 14, 6-8pm

"I am the wound and the blade, both the torturer and he who is flayed."

- Charles Baudelaire

Silke Lindner is pleased to announce *Fleurs du mal* (Flowers of Evil), a group exhibition based on the eponymous poetry collection by Charles Baudelaire. Dealing with themes of moral ambiguity, beauty, decay and the duality of existence, the exhibition features works by Elizabeth Jaeger, Sang Woo Kim, Morten Knudsen, Chris Oh, Barbara Wesolowska and Tommy Xie.

In a pervading installation by **Elizabeth Jaeger**, hundreds of beetles crawl up the gallery's walls and surround the paintings in the exhibition. In gleaming brass and ceramic, they permeate the room like silent harbingers, foreboding the ominous within beautiful allure.

The faces that emerge from underneath the many layers of **Barbara Wesolowska's** paintings, seem to arise from places deep within. Lingered feelings and memories from her religious upbringing speak in many voices that murmur underneath their surface. Similarly shaped by the artist's past, **Morten Knudsen's** paintings move between abstractions and hints of figuration. In seas of blots and stains akin to flowers, he buries personal grief underneath the paintings' heavy layers. Small in scale and tightly cropped, **Tommy Xie's** paintings portray intimate moments that surface from the artist's imagination. Embedding self-portraits and faces of friends in unfamiliar settings, he uncovers new emotions from the unknown.

Chris Oh engages in practices of appropriation and the tradition of Renaissance copy. Drawing inspiration from daily life and the natural world, he renders intricate details of the Western canon onto a variety of found objects such as a seashell, an insect, and a 1977 hardcover edition of *Flowers of Evil*. Through the pairing of readymade and meticulous paintings he creates surreal relics of the future.

In juxtapositions of found images, **Sang Woo Kim's** series *Ways of Seeing* addresses a sense of a fractured identity and a feeling of otherness shaped by the clash between his traditional Korean upbringing and Western culture surrounding him. In his pigment dye transfer works, he pulls into view an uncanniness between image and their washed out double, exploring ways of seeing and being seen in a poetic language that navigates displacement, the complexities of identity and cultural duality.

Elizabeth Jaeger (b. 1988 in San Francisco, CA) lives and works in New York, NY. She has had various solo exhibitions, most recently at *Capsule Shanghai, Shanghai* (2024); *Mennour, Paris* (2024); and *Klemm's, Berlin* (2023). Her work has been exhibited widely including group exhibitions at *Museum Morsbroich, Leverkusen, DE* (2023); *Lisson, New York, NY* (2022); *Jeffrey Deitch, Los Angeles, CA, and New York, NY* (2021/2019/2018); *Sprengel Museum, Hannover, DE* (2020); *Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, CO* (2018); *Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY* (2016); *White Cube, London, UK* (2017); *MoMA PS1, Queens, NY*, (2016) and *Sculpture Center, Queens, NY* (2016).

Sang Woo Kim (b.1994 in Seoul, KOR) lives and works in London. He has had solo exhibitions at *Herald St, London, UK* (2024) and *Galerie Sébastien Bertrand, Geneva, CH* (2024). He has been included in group exhibitions at *Arcadia Missa* (2024), *Union Pacific, London, UK* (2024); *X-Museum, Beijing, China* (2024); *MAMCO, Geneva, CH* (2024) and *Hauser & Wirth Somerset, UK* (2024), among others.

Morten Knudsen (b. 1986 in Denmark) lives and works in Copenhagen. He studied painting at the *Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts Copenhagen*, and *Hochschule für Bildende Künste Hamburg*. He has had solo - and two person exhibitions at *Sweetwater, Berlin* (2025) and *Gauli Zitter, Brussels* (2024). He has been included in group exhibitions at *Cucina Copenhagen, Copenhagen* (2023); *Simo Bacar, Lisbon* (2022); *Golsa, Oslo* (2022); *The House for Art and Design, Holstebro* (2022); *The National Gallery of Denmark, Copenhagen* (2020) and *Christian Andersen Gallery, Copenhagen* (2020).

Chris Oh (b. 1982 in Portland, OR) lives and works in Queens, NY, and Portland, OR. He has had solo exhibitions at *Capsule, Shanghai* (2023) and *Fortnight Institute, New York, NY* (2021, 2018, 2016). He has been included in group exhibitions, most recently at *Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, CA* (2024); *Capsule, Venice* (2024); *Blum & Poe, Los Angeles, CA* (2023); *Moskowitz Bayse, Los Angeles, CA* (2022) ; *The FLAG Art Foundation New York, NY* (2021) and *Venus Over Manhattan, New York, NY* (2021).

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Barbara Wesolowska (b. 1984 in Poland) lives and works in London. She graduated from the Slade School of Fine Art, London in 2013 and the Royal College of London in 2015. Wesolowska has had solo exhibitions at Michael Werner, Athens (2024); Silke Lindner, New York (2024); Stereo Warsaw (2023); and east contemporary, Milan (2022). Wesolowska has been included in group exhibitions, most recently at LC Queisser, Tbilisi (2024); Crèvecoeur, Montesquiou (2024); The White Ermine, Düsseldorf (2024); Brunette Coleman, London (2023) and Modern Art, London (2023).

Tommy Xie (b. 1998 in Chaozhou, China) lives and works in London. He received a BFA at Central Saint Martins in London in 2021. He has had solo exhibitions at Silke Lindner, New York (2024); Ginny on Fredrick, London, UK (2022); and Monti8, Latina, Italy (2023). He has been included in group exhibitions at James Fuentes, New York, NY (2024) and Grove, London, UK (2023), among others.

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