

# The approach

Sophie Bueno-Boutellier

## *Reprise*

28 February – 5 April 2025

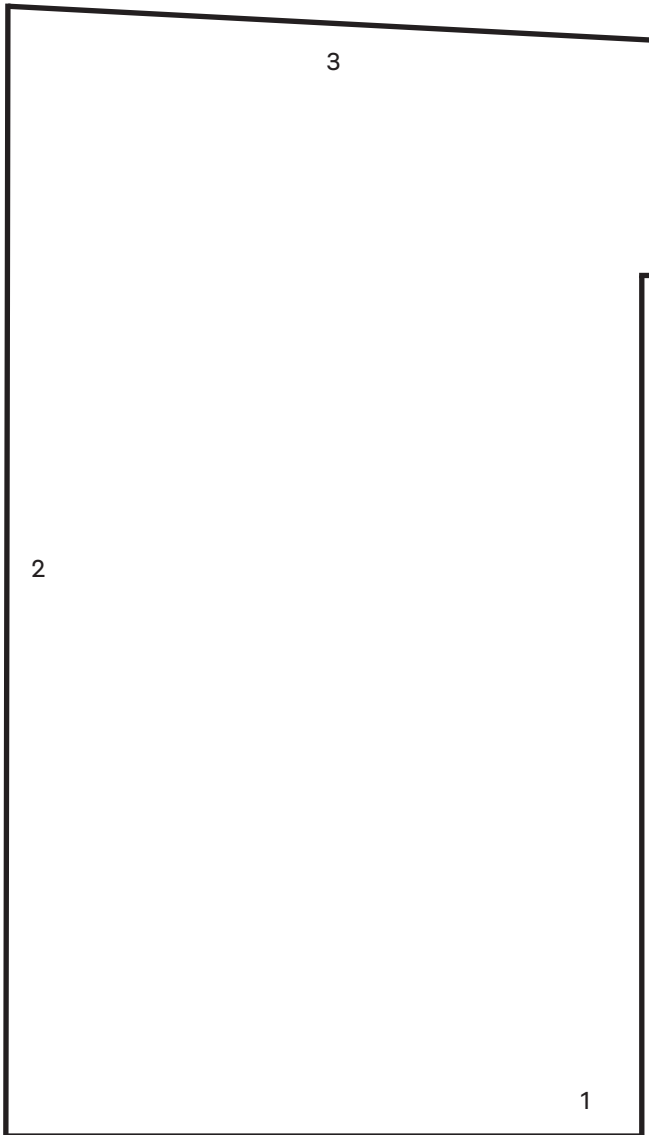
Preview: Thursday 27 February, 6-9pm

The Approach is pleased to present *Reprise*, Sophie Bueno-Boutellier's third solo exhibition with the gallery. Working between sculpture, painting and installation, her practice engages with the body through improvised and choreographed actions.

Bueno-Boutellier's works reveal an aesthetics of silence and contemplation which nonetheless hinges on the raw materiality of the work. Painted canvases are folded, curled and affixed with steel appendages or placed upon plinths. An abstract ceramic element remains unfired while a tousled, paint-flecked fabric drapes from the gallery wall. These works appear to eschew traditional categorisations of medium, instead exploring the haptic and spatial relations that exist between the objects, the gallery space and the viewer. The forms themselves are the culmination of the artist's gestures and movements in what becomes a dance with the material. It is both ritualistic and sensual, capturing the energy within the studio of a given day.

For this new body of work, Bueno-Boutellier introduces stainless steel bars to her recognisable folded canvases. In *You thought I'd be heartless without you, But I love harder.*, 2025 a twisted steel bar hangs from a cable. The eventual form of the bar was created by Bueno-Boutellier bending the metal against two tree trunks in the garden of her studio. This direct interaction with the environment of her studio and its surroundings speaks to the diary-like nature of her work, as well as the performative, instinctive actions that inform her practice. In using modest materials and objects that relate to themes of love, family, and personal memory, Boutellier's installations evoke a domestic intimacy.

Sophie Bueno-Boutellier (b. 1974, Toulouse, France) lives and works in Marseille, France. Selected solo exhibitions include: *Touche-moi, Fraeme/Panorama-La Friche*, Marseille, France, (2021); *Je me perds et me repands...je suis l'écho de ton eau*, Galerie Joseph Tang, Paris, France (2020); *La Ritournelle du Peuple des Cuisines*, Fondation d'entreprise Ricard, Paris, France (2016); *Life seems unreal, can we go back to your place?*, Freymond-Guth, Zurich, Switzerland (2015); *They sing a song only you can hear*, The Approach, London, UK (2014); *C'est à crier tellement c'est bleu*, Circus, Berlin, Germany (2012); *Pensée Sauvage*, Kunstverein Langenhagen, Langenhagen, Germany (2011); *A knock on the window pane*, Galerie Carlos Cardenas, Paris, France (2009); *Lunar Odyssey*, Beton-Salon, MuseumsQuartier, Vienna, Austria (2007). Selected group exhibitions include: *White Noise*, Kunsthaus Glarus, Glarus, Switzerland (2015); *Rotrixagatze, On Stellar Rays*, New York, USA (2015); *DIZIONARIO DI PITTURA*, Francesca Minini, Milan, Italy (2014); *Occupy Painting*, Autocenter, Berlin, Germany (2014); *SLIP*, The Approach, London, UK (2013); *Beyond the Object*, Brand New Gallery, Milan, Italy (2013); *Plentitude*, Carl Freedman Gallery, London, UK (2012).



1. *You thought I'd be heartless without you, But I love harder.*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas, pigments, steel cable, steel bar and snap hook  
120 x 210 x 20 cm

2. *Parfois un coup de vent suffit à révéler ce qui gît sous l'épiderme. Entends tu le son de ma voix?*, 2024  
Acrylic on canvas, ceramic, stainless steel cable, stainless steel structure, jewel  
Dimensions variable

3. *Je rêvais de fleurs, j'ai osé la poésie au creux de mon ventre, et je me suis trouvée sur le bout de ma langue.*, 2025  
Acrylic, pigment, plaster, latex on cotton gaze  
55 x 55 x 20 cm

In the office:

*Chimères. Are we all water? Ou venons nous aussi d'ailleurs.*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
68 x 47 x 17 cm