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Anne Pöhlmann

Familiar Pattern

May 9th – June 21st, 2025

In *Familiar Pattern*, Anne Pöhlmann weaves memory, intimacy, and media reflection into a layered visual fabric. The exhibition brings together two distinct bodies of work that intertwine personal experience with broader cultural currents:

Dresden 1992, a retrospective gaze on adolescence during a time of upheaval, and *Familiar Pattern*, a more expansive exploration of familial rhythms – of repetition, rupture, and inheritance across generations.

At the core of both series lies the personal archive – images that hover between closeness and distance, between documentary trace and reconstructed memory. They span from life in post-reunification East Germany to more recent reflections on motherhood, identity, and intergenerational connection.

Dresden 1992 draws on black-and-white photographs Pöhlmann took as a teenager in the early 1990s, during a formative moment of political and personal uncertainty. Capturing her family, friends, and everyday surroundings in Prohlis – a vast prefabricated housing estate in Dresden – the images reflect a landscape marked by transition: both decaying and full of promise. Three decades later, these early snapshots return as monumental knitted textiles. The photographic grain is replaced by the knitted stitch; contours blur into texture, and the familiar becomes abstracted. The resulting works echo not only the fragility of memory but also the disorientation of growing up in a world that was being redefined.

In contrast, the newer series *Familiar Pattern* shifts the focus from historical rupture to generational continuity. Drawing on photographs from four generations the works trace visual and emotional patterns that pass through families: gestures, gazes, postures, inherited roles. Children's faces – defiant, absorbed, searching – appear alongside portraits of mothers with their children. These images explore intimacy not as a fixed ideal, but as something porous, layered, and shaped by time.

Together, the two series form a dialogue between personal memory and cultural history. Through digital editing, layering, and translation into textile form, Pöhlmann constructs images that resist easy reading. They become sites of slow perception – spaces where abstraction and emotion, surface and depth, coexist. *Familiar Pattern* is both method and metaphor: a meditation on recurring forms – visual, emotional, relational – that remain at once recognizable and impossible to fully decode.

– Marie Hütter