

**Press Release**

**Tonio Kröner**

***Free won't***

**June 6 – July 19, 2025**

Edouard Montassut presents *Free Won't*, a solo exhibition by Tonio Kröner, his first show with the gallery.

A painting of a human figure hanging on a rope in Paris. Admittedly, I do work as a contemporary artist – not as a psychoanalyst, not as a professor of comparative religions, and not as an occultist. While there is an inherited preoccupation with painting as a “dispositif” in this work, desire found its way in. As it tends to do. Of all the possible places, it became apparent in the museum: how the very principles of painted images are not only inexpressible, but somehow negate the regimes they establish. Like the museum itself. And the studio.

The shop seemed to be full of all manner of curious things – but the oddest part of it all was, that whenever I looked hard at any shelf, to make out exactly what it had on it, that particular shelf was always quite empty: though the others round it were crowded as full as they could hold.

This literacy in desire can be called being a student of, or searching out, a poetics. It is a provisional work. Provided by an attending – at its root there is to see, colour, scale, compare, compose, and stage – that betrays itself and is experienced as a diffuse, exceptional ordinariness near oblivion or some other lure.

**Tonio Kröner** (b. 1984, Germany) lives and works in Berlin. Recent exhibitions include greengrassi, London; Universitätsgalerie der Angewandten, Vienna; Lars Friedrich, Berlin; Galerie Buchholz, Cologne; and Lumiar Cité/Associação Maumaus, Lisbon.