

RAPHAELA VOGEL

Stop! (The Infinite Regress)

7.11. 2025 – 10.1. 2026

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An exhibition about the end of infinite regress

“All the way down” is a metaphor that illustrates the problem of infinite regress in metaphysics. There are many variations, but the basic idea is that, when asked about the origin or existence of the Earth, someone answers that the world rests on a giant turtle. When asked what the turtle is standing on, they reply: “It's turtles – all the way down.” With this seemingly absurd image, the popular philosophical world model *Turtles all the way down* describes the endless regress to ever new foundations. A world on the back of an elephant, which in turn stands on a turtle—and underneath? Another turtle. And another.

The works in the exhibition take up this idea of infinite regress—not only as a cosmological curiosity, but as a symbol for today's questions: What really supports our world view? Where does the regress end—or can it ever end?

The exhibition brings together turtles and elephants as motifs—carried, stacked, broken. The rearing horse appears as a visual counterweight: a symbol of interruption, of pause, of decision. It does not stand still, but stands cross-wise. The stacked becomes the central metaphor of the exhibition: layers of meaning, of image carriers, of explanations of the world. *Stop! (The Infinite Regress)* is thus not only the title of the exhibition, but also an artistic stance: the decision to question the endless establishing of foundations – and to (re)stack the world.

Raphaela Vogel (born 1988, Nuremberg)

Solo exhibitions include: Museo Tamayo, Mexico City (2025); Kunsthalle Gießen (2024, 2021); Centre d'art contemporain – la synagogue de Delme (2024); Heidelberger Kunstverein (2024); De Pont Museum, Tilburg (2023); Le Confort Moderne, Poitiers (2021); Neues Museum, Nuremberg (2020); Kunsthaus Bregenz (2019); Haus der Kunst, Munich (2019); Berlinische Galerie (2018); Leopold-Hoesch-Museum, Düren (2018); Kunsthalle Basel (2018); Westfälischer Kunstverein, Münster (2016); Bonner Kunstverein (2015).

Group exhibitions include: Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam (2025); Sprengel Museum, Hanover (2024); Casino Luxembourg, Forum d'Art Contemporain, Luxembourg (2024); Kunsthalle Tübingen (2023); Kunsthalle Trier (2023); Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève (2023); 59th International Art Exhibition de La Biennale di Venezia, curated by Cecilia Alemani, Venice (2022); Kunst Museum Winterthur (2022); Kunstverein Hamburg (2021); Bundeskunsthalle Bonn (2020); Kunsthalle Bremen (2020); ARoS Aarhus Kunstmuseum (2020); Schinkel Pavillon (2019); Fondation Vincent van Gogh, Arles (2019); Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris; Kestner Gesellschaft, Hanover (2017); Cobra Museum of Modern Art, Amsterdam (2017); Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden and Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt/Main (2015).