Press Release
FELIX CONTZEN
DREAM LOVE FAIL REPEAT

Opening on Thursday, February 13, 2020, 7 - 9 pm
Exhibition: February 14 - April 4, 2020

"Nature is order and chaos at the same time. I like order. Through sensitively selected fragments I create my ideal of nature. A distorted but tidy gaze." Felix Contzen

In his second solo exhibition DREAM LOVE FAIL REPEAT at Galerie Judith Andreae, Felix Contzen (*1981 Willich/ Niederrhein, 2012 graduate of KHM Cologne, Prof. Jürgen Klauke (Intermediate diploma) and Prof. Beate Gütschow (Diploma), 2013-2019 guest student at the Art Academy Düsseldorf, Prof. Marcel Odenbach) will be showing new landscape photographs and expansive video installations inspired by Romanticism, opening February 14, 2020.

A constant search for the ideal of landscape has occupied the artist throughout his creative period. While in his older works he still used the landscape as a space in which he himself disappears, in his new works it seems as if the landscape itself dissolves into its natural form.

Beyond the aesthetics of his works, the artist explores the shift in perspectives of perception and, through the dialogue between photographic and installation work, offers new spaces of experience in which the image of romantic nature anchored in collective memory becomes a projection surface for human ratio vs. perception.

A conscious approach to this epoch is given by Felix Contzen not only through his choice of pictorial motifs, but also through his urge to reflect people’s wishes in nature - just as it was the central aspect of the Romantics in the 19th century. In the rural exodus caused by industrialization, the beauty of nature was to be emphasized. His video installations show filtered natural processes that are projected onto heavy, floating image carriers such as hard stone and become video, installation and...
‘flatware’ at the same time. The moment of experience occurs through the collective experience of spatial installations.

Parallel and corresponding to the solo exhibition of Felix Contzen, a group show by Kathrin Edwards (*1992, Bietigheim-Bissingen), Ke Li (*1987, Nanjing, China) and Marleen Müller (*1987, Gießen) will present further works, who also feature romantic narrative motifs.

In her graphics, etchings and drawings Kathrin Edwards (2019 graduate of the Düsseldorf Art Academy, class of Prof. Siegfried Anzinger, 2017 master student) deals with nature, man and their relationship to one another. A female nude is often shown in nature, but it does not always have to be in the centre of attention, but can also be shown in a reduced form at the edge.

The graphite drawings and pastel paintings by Marleen Müller (graduated from the Düsseldorf Art Academy in 2015, class of Prof. Udo Dziersk and Prof. Thomas Grünfeld) are reminiscent of reinterpretations of old master paintings. The subject of the still life is classically and yet completely newly alienated and at the same time received and forces the viewer to confront new processes of perception.

Ke Li (2018 graduated from the Düsseldorf Art Academy, class of Prof. Marcel Odenbach) works with materials that nature itself creates. Mostly it is plants, flowers, pearls and seeds which she transforms into poetic creatures and casts in polyester.

In this process she creates figures, each of which tells its own story and is intended to transport the viewer into another world.

Kathrin Edwards, the path, 2019, Ed. 2/2, Etching on handmade paper, 189 x 330 cm.
Ke Li, <<ShanHauJing>> - Ying Yu (Male fish), 2016, polyester, seed, crown leaf, dust bag, plant, 21,5 x 11,5 x 5 cm.
Marleen Müller, o.T., 2017, Graphite on wood, 60 x 46 x 5 cm.

On the occasion of the exhibition Felix Contzen will compose a special edition „PARADIES“, 2020, Fine Art Print auf Alu Dibond, 30 x 45 cm, Ed. of 10 + 1 AP

FELIX CONTZEN - DREAM LOVE FAIL REPEAT
OPENING: Thursday, February 13, 2020, 7 - 9 pm,
8 pm introduction in presence of all artists
Exhibition: February 14 - April 4, 2020

Galerie Judith Andreae info@galerie-andreae.de
Paul-Kemp-Str. 7 www.galerie-andreae.de
53173 Bonn 0228 - 93490881