

PRESS RELEASE

GRUNER ELMA

Julia Gruner and Hildegard Elma

Theme and Variation

16 July - 4 September 2021

Opening: Thursday, 15 July, 6 to 9 pm

Introduction with the artists around 7 pm

On display are new works by the artists Hildegard Elma and Julia Gruner.

While Elma's painting process is influenced by body dynamics, the chosen colour spectrum of red and blue and the invariable paper and brush format, Gruner uses the physical and chemical nature of the material paint to apply it to canvases to the extent of objectness.

What both have in common is the concentrated exhaustion of their working methods, which leaves room for coincidences and variation.

Hildegard Elma (*1948 Freudenstadt) studied music at the Staatliche Hochschule für Musik in Stuttgart (1967-1976), before she continued her studies in free painting at the Staatliche Akademie für Bildende Künste Stuttgart (1978-1982). After many years in Northern Germany, Hildegard Elma now lives and works in Freudenstadt in the Black Forest.

Her works are approaches to the interaction of light, colour and space and at the same time a homage to the tone of two colours and their rich possibility of nuance. She works with two shades of blue, indigo and ultramarine, and two shades of red, magenta and alizarin crimson.

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Her painting process proves to be a physical act in which every brushstroke is executed consciously and confidently and every movement counts. The paintings are characterised by the artist's action in analogy to nature, whose principle of growth is shaped by repetition with simultaneous variation.

Julia Gruner (*1984 Lüdenscheid) studied fine arts at the Düsseldorf Art Academy from 2010 to 2015 in the class of Prof. Katharina Grosse, from whom she graduated as a master student in 2015. After her studies, she took part in various artist-in-residence programmes in Seoul, London, Reykjavik and Kyoto. She lives and works in Cologne.

In her artistic work, Julia Gruner explores the limits of the medium of painting. An important part of her work is the experimental exploration of the material colour - as one of the central elements of painting - in its chemical, physical and material-aesthetic properties.

For example, she uses paint as a material to create three-dimensional objects or examines paint particles that are left over from the painting process under the microscope. Within this process, scientific, art-historical and perception-theoretical considerations flow into the work just as much as everyday things.

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Wednesday	10 am – 6 pm
Thursday and Friday	2 pm – 6 pm
Saturday	11 am – 3 pm

We are happy to arrange separate appointments outside our opening hours.

The current hygiene rules apply for a visit.