

cuturigallery

# WINDOW FAINTING

JOCHEN MÜHLENBRINK

14 MAY - 12 JUNE 2022



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**Cuturi Gallery** is a next generation art gallery founded on the belief that art should be empowering and meaningful for everyone. A curator of change and a custodian of artistic diversity, Cuturi Gallery is a challenger of vested interests and of the status quo, pushing the boundaries of how galleries operate. The gallery connects broad audiences to high-quality art by diverse talents that speaks to the heart and tells the story of an undiscovered generation of aspiring artists that will have the art world aching for more.

Diminishing aristocratic traditions and providing transparency in an art world that is at times daunting, Cuturi Gallery presents an inclusive and democratised art ecosystem which fosters greater collaboration, understanding and appreciation of art amongst artists, collectors and the industry at large.

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Cuturi Gallery is delighted to present **Window Fainting**, a debut solo exhibition in Asia by German artist **Jochen Mühlenbrink (b.1980, Germany)**. Following a four-week residency in Singapore in the upper floors of the gallery, Mühlenbrink presents new paintings which further expand on his painting style of concealing and revealing subject matters which leave the audience in a constant state of questioning.

Mühlenbrink's passion for painting started at a young age. He was always surrounded by artists, as his grandfather worked in the artworld. He studied Fine Art at the Kunstakademie in Düsseldorf and graduated as a master student of German artist, Markus Lüpertz. Mühlenbrink's early works focused on skylines, landscapes, and interiors. In these paintings Mühlenbrink uses strong contrasts between light and dark, inspired by the old Dutch masters and their use of chiaroscuro.

2011 marked a turning point for Mühlenbrink. After back-to-back successful exhibitions he questioned what he thought was perceived as a good painting.

"I looked back at my earlier works which referenced classics from art history, and I started to question my own approach to painting. What makes a good painting today? How radical can I be without giving up the painting principles that formed me? What pre-conceptions do we have in the artworld towards how we appreciate art?"

"One day I was in my studio and flipped over one of my paintings. The back of the painting was facing me for a few days. I decided to use it as my subject."

The first time these paintings were exhibited were in 2011 in Amsterdam. The exhibition titled, ROHSTOFF, which translates to 'raw material' in English, were a series of works where only the back of paintings were realistically painted with rays of light traversing them.

As you enter the main room of the Cuturi Gallery, Mühlenbrink presents us with an installation work. What is the audience looking at? Multiple packed paintings that are wrapped and ready to be shipped out of the gallery? The *Wrapping* and *Tape* series are one of the most emblematic series of the artist. These two materials are the most basic form of protection for an artwork, they now become under Mühlenbrink's eye,

“We consider tape and wrapping paper as disposable, so if I paint them, how would my artwork then be perceived? What if instead I allow the viewer to peek through the wrapping paper and let them see what seems to be the covered artwork?” Mühlenbrink’s painting process is one of alchemy, in which the ordinary is turned into extraordinary.

The *Window* series was born out of this questioning, “Fogged windows that are hiding an image behind. If the gesture of a finger reveals what’s in the background. Even if it’s just a glimpse. Is the brain then capable of deciding what they are seeing as real?”

Mühlenbrink challenges the status quo by questioning what is relevant in painting. He attracts his audience and asks them to look at his painting beyond what is visual. In a way, by challenging the codes of painting and art history, Mühlenbrink challenges the codes of society.

Mühlenbrink’s works has since been featured in several international exhibitions, including Kunstmuseum Solingen, Bundeskunsthalle Bonn, Kunsthalle Osnabrück, Morat-Institut Freiburg, Osthaus Museum Hagen, Kunsthalle Wilhelmshaven, Kunsthall Rotterdam, Museum Het Valkhof, Nijmegen and Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam.

His works can be viewed in various private and public collections in Europe and internationally, among others in Museum X, Beijing, G2 Kunsthalle, Leipzig, Stadtmuseum Oldenburg, Deutsche Bundesbank, NATIONAL-BANK and Collectie DE.GROEN, Arnhem.

**Window Fainting** will be on view at Cuturi Gallery from **14th May to 12th June 2022**.



WF (SG Triptych IX), 2022  
Oil on canvas  
Approx. 160 x 182 x 20 cm, Three Parts



WP, 2022  
Oil on canvas  
160 x 130 cm



WTP, 2022  
Oil on canvas  
160 x 130 cm



Grand TP, 2022

Oil on canvas

160 x 130 cm





WP, 2022  
Oil on canvas  
100 x 90 cm



WP, 2022  
Oil on canvas  
100 x 90 cm



WP, 2022  
Oil on canvas  
100 x 90 cm



WP, 2022  
Oil on canvas  
100 x 90 cm



TP, 2022  
Oil on canvas  
100 x 90 cm



WP, 2022  
Oil on canvas  
70 x 50 cm



WF, 2022  
Oil on canvas  
70 x 50 cm

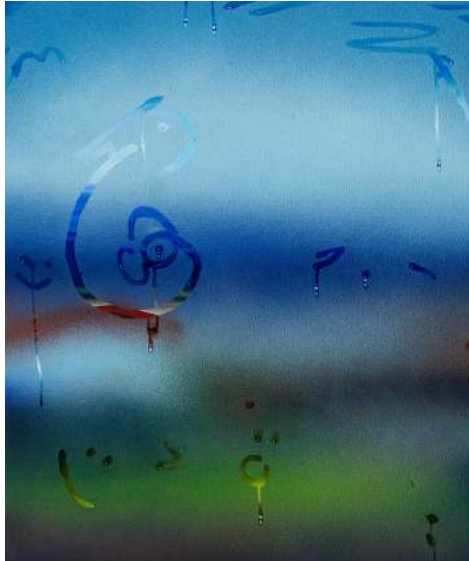


WP (Void), 2022  
Oil on canvas  
60 x 50 cm





WTP (Cut), 2022  
Oil on canvas  
60 x 50 cm



WP, 2022  
Oil on canvas  
60 x 50 cm



WTFP, 2022  
Oil on canvas  
60 x 50 cm



WF, 2022  
Oil on canvas  
60 x 50 cm



WFTP, 2022  
Oil on canvas  
60 x 50 cm

# JOCHEN MÜHLENBRINK

Lives and works in Freiburg, Germany.

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 Window Fainting, Cuturi Gallery, Singapore, Singapore
- 2021 2gether. With Gioele Amaro at Gether Contemporary, Copenhagen, Denmark  
Exhibition views  
Pola V. Gerhard Hofland, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
Exhibition views
- 2020 Jochen Mühlenbrink. Kunstmuseum Solingen, Germany  
Exhibition views  
Review. davidbehning galerie, Düsseldorf, Germany  
Dawn. ASPN, Leipzig, Germany
- 2019 FOG. Gerhard Hofland, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2018 Falz. Malerei. Stadtmuseum Oldenburg, Germany  
Falz. Painting. De Groen Fine Art Collection, Arnhem, Netherlands  
Falz III. ASPN, Leipzig, Germany
- 2017 Afterimage. ASPN, Leipzig, Germany
- 2016 Vertuschen. Gmünder Kunstverein, Swabian Gmuend, Germany
- 2015 CLP Rapid. KunstHalle Cloppenburg, Germany
- 2014 Stroke Hold. ASPN, Leipzig, Germany  
Asche. Gerhard Hofland Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2013 FRAGIL. Morat-Institut, Freiburg, Germany  
FRAGIL. Kunsthalle Wilhelmshaven, Germany  
Pola Void. Gerhard Hofland, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2012 66. Internationaler Bergischer Kunstpreis. With Leunora Salihu, NATIONAL-Bank, Wuppertal, Germany
- 2011 ROHSTOFF. Hofland & Aschenbach Galleries, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2010 Awarded by Kulturstiftung der Öffentlichen Versicherungen Oldenburg, Germany  
Mal Heur. FRISCH collection, Halle am Wasser, Berlin, Germany  
2009 Rücksicht. Kunstverein Heppenheim, Germany  
Stauraum. Tatjana Pieters Gallery, Gent, Belgium
- 2009 Rücksicht. Kunstverein Heppenheim, Germany  
Stauraum. Tatjana Pieters Gallery, Gent, Belgium
- 2008 Perspectives of contemporary painting. German Federal Bank, Frankfurt/Main, Germany

J-pics vs. mpegs. With Martin Denker, Torch Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
2006 Sachliche Romanze. OneTwentyGallery Gent, Belgium and the Agency, London, Great Britain  
IKE. Kulturbahnhof Eller, Düsseldorf, Germany

#### Group Exhibitions

2022 Schmunzeln. Städtische Galerie Fruchthalle, Rastatt, Germany, curated by Sebastian Schmitt  
DIE GROSE, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, Germany  
Bruthaus Gallery, Waregem, Belgium  
Gallery Func, Shanghai, China

2021 Im Frage. Collectie Delissen. Museum Het Valkhof, Nijmegen, Netherlands  
Aus jedem Dorf ein Hund. THALER Originalgrafik, Leipzig, Germany

2020 Untitled Reality. davidbehning galerie, Düsseldorf, Germany  
Open until full. ASPN, Leipzig, Germany  
Im Frage. Collectie Delissen. Museum Het Valkhof, Nijmegen, Netherlands

2019 Setup 04. De Groen Fine Art Collection, Arnhem, Netherlands  
ASPN STS Wuppertal, hosted by Groelle Pass Projects, Wuppertal, Germany  
Yes we' re open. Gerhard Hofland, Amsterdam, Netherlands

2018 Palmenbingo. ASPN, Leipzig, Germany  
1001 Bild, Vol. II. Villa de Bank, Enschede, Netherlands  
Konvolution – Künstler Buch Projekte. Osthaus Museum Hagen, Germany

2017 Het Mysterie van de Waarheid. Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
TROY. Galerie Evelyn Drewes, Hamburg, Germany  
Trunk. Kunstverein Lüneburg, Germany

2016 Wahrheiten. Werke aus der Sammlung SØR/Rusche. Kunstverein Münsterland, Germany

2015 Gute Kunst? Wollen! Werke aus der Sammlung SØR/Rusche. Auf AEG, Nürnberg, Germany

2014 painting. about, around & within. Curated by Daniele Capra. Galleria UPP, Venice, Italy  
Behind images. Curated by Hans van der Ham, Garage Rotterdam, Netherlands

2013 Schöne Landschaft – Bedrohte Natur. Kunsthalle Dominikanerkirche, Osnabrück, Germany

2012 Droste Effect. Nieuwe Vide, Haarlem, Netherlands  
Jack Helgesen Collection. Vestfossen Kunstlaboratorium, Norway  
66. Internationaler Bergischer Kunstpreis. Kunstmuseum Solingen, Germany

2011 Carte blanche. Kunstverein Mittelbaden and Städtische Galerie Offenburg, Germany  
Nordwestkunst 2011 – Die Nominierten. Kunsthalle Wilhelmshaven, Germany  
Verbrechen und Bild. Städtische Galerie Villingen-Schwenningen, Germany

2010 Van Bommel van Dam Prijs. Museum Van Bommel van Dam, Venlo, Netherlands

2009 The Unforgettable Fire – 25 jaars Torch Gallery. Kunsthil Rotterdam, Netherlands  
Selection. Werke aus der Sammlung Biedermann. Museum Biedermann, Donaueschingen, Germany

- 2008 Inventur. Zeitgenössische Radierung in Deutschland. Kunstverein Reutlingen and Kunstmuseum Pablo Picasso, Münster, Germany
- 2007 Hotel Kerberos. KIT Düsseldorf, Germany Triband.  
With Martin Schepers and Gereon Krebber, KunstKlub Berlin, Germany  
*12 Artists from Germany*. Dangerous Curve, Los Angeles, USA
- 2005 XIV. Deutsche Internationale Grafik-Triennale. Kunstverein Frechen, Germany

#### Grants and Awards

- 2013 Catalog Promotional Award by Kunstraum Radius-Verlag, Stuttgart, Germany
- 2012 66. Bergischer Internationaler Kunstpreis, Kunstmuseum Solingen, Germany
- 2011 Artist in residence, Los Angeles, USA, Vancouver, Canada and NYC, USA
- 2010 Art Award for Painting, Kulturstiftung der Öffentlichen Versicherungen Oldenburg, Germany
- 2006 Working grant Bahnhof Eller, City of Düsseldorf, Germany
- 2004 Hogan Lovells Art Award, Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, Germany



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