

HOŠEK CONTEMPORARY

— EST. 2016 —

CHRISTIAN KERA HINZ - POOL PAINTING

Opening reception: 23rd August 2024, 6 - 10 pm

Exhibition period: 23rd August - 1st September 2024

Pool Painting is a site-specific installation for a river barge.

On the deck of this barge Christian KERA Hinz installs a ten by five meter pool, consisting of a tarpaulin on a wooden construction. This 'canvas', which has been hand-painted in a geometric manner and flooded, is the visible bottom of this ten centimetres-deep pool. The water is optically changing the way we see the painting. At first glance, there is a slight irritation in considering water as the cargo of a barge.

For a moment we might think of a window to the riverbed. Standing on the higher deck we observe the painting under water, how the reflection and optical distortion are activating it. The impressions of graphical and optical events merge. Our perception is included in the painter's visual intention. A straight line becomes a gently moving wave if we focus on what we actually see. The painting is composed of seven colours, a colour chord of fresh and soothing tones, deriving from the urban environment. They are arranged in colour fields which follow a graphical logic, a dynamic order with fractional shifts.

The artwork is open to the public and walkable. Christian KERA Hinz invites four people at a time to enter and walk in the pool. This creates a participatory moment. The visitors wandering in the pool co-create the dynamic impression given by the painting to the viewers standing on the deck. Entering the pool barefoot is a sensual moment. When it's your turn, you pace the length of the pool, while your presence and movements are activating the artwork. It is an intimate feeling, being allowed to step on an artwork. Making water circles and waves with your feet is dynamising the painting, combined with a refreshing and welcoming sensation.

Pool Painting is a gesture of community. Christian KERA Hinz creates an accessible artwork, handing it over to each one of us.

Text © Michael Sebastian Haas

Size: 10 x 4,7 meters
Material: tarpaulin, lacquer, wood, water
Year: 2024

www.kera1.de

Hošek Contemporary

Established by Petr Hošek in 2016, Hošek Contemporary is a gallery and art residency located on a historical cargo ship next to Fischerinsel in Mitte, Berlin. The gallery focuses primarily on site-specific pieces, performing arts and experimental sound works. During the spring and summer months, the gallery is hosting weekly improvised and experimental music installations, with local and international musicians.

MS Heimatland

Built in 1910 in Fürstenberg an der Oder, MS Heimatland was initially operating under the name Ida and used for transporting coal to Charlottenburg. After the Second World War, the 58-meter long cargo ship was renamed Heimatland, meaning "homeland". Until the 90s, the ship was sailing on Elbe and Havel, moving other boats, sand and chipping. It served for artistic and cultural purposes for the first time in 2002, when German sculptor Christiane Möbus chose it for her Nackte Tatsache Tatsache project. Finally, in March 2018, Heimatland became the main exhibition space and artist residency of Hošek Contemporary. The boat is permanently anchored in the historic port of Berlin.

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