

CLAIRE DE FOUCAULD & DAVID ROTH

Panis is delighted to present photographs by Claire de Foucauld and Flower Paintings by David Roth.

Both artists' work is about taking stock, recording the here and now, that indeed is an altered now mere seconds later. Guided by the idea their journey might lead to something interesting, but without a (predefined) plan, yet wide-awake and responsive to what they might encounter.

In his Flower paintings David Roth further extends his foray into working with flowers, however not employing them as a sujet but as his instruments. Used as paintbrushes, they become part of the painting process. The flowers' varying character and texture leave behind marks and shapes that surprise us, some appearing anarchical, some poetical. Soaked in paint, conducted over canvas or paper with sweeping moves, David Roth lets the flowers draw a portrait of the painting instruments' physiognomy. Certain circumstances bring forth certain paintings.

Certain circumstances and moments are what Claire De Foucauld captures with her camera. Analog - no examining the pictures seconds after releasing the shutter, no pressure to constantly browse the photographs taken. One shot - one opportunity. De Foucauld's photographs let us take a poetic breath of a world in plain view, that often escapes us. The seemingly trivial or inconspicuous appears for an instant, then quickly passes from view again.

This presentation is a dialogue between two artists, differing in the form and media they employ, but whose attitude towards art corresponds.

Claire de Foucauld (France, 1986) graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (Austria) in 2012. She is based in Vienna, Austria.

Claire de Foucauld's pictures are like haikus. Her images crystallise the evanescent emotions of a scene, fixing them on film. From interiors to urban or natural landscapes, from random details of the everyday to a piece of art, each snapshot captures the sometimes whimsical nature of a moment as well as the poetry of a shape, a beam of light or the tones of a color. She gleans her images during her many flâneries : « I never know what I'm going to capture; I let the camera decide for me. » Chance is at the heart of her practice, akin to a visual automatic writing. Her gaze only intervenes later, when she creates associations, often through the pages of a book, to create sequences and tell us a story. As the collected images accumulate, a typology of motifs emerges. Claire de Foucauld's eye might, for example, focus on fences, grids, barriers, nets ... her lexical field speaks of obstruction. Combined with often hidden faces or scenes devoid of any human presence, it gives the viewer the impression that they just missed the party, they entered a space that was buzzing with life just a few minutes earlier. Thus kept at a distance, the viewer becomes an external observer of this inaccessible universe, filled with a sense of the uncanny, the way the personal can suddenly become alienating. A form of solitude emanates from this distancing which, far from being negative, allows us to renew our perception of this world that Claire de Foucauld strives to collect for us to grasp its poetry.

Selected exhibitions

2022

"Quick Sun", Duo exhibition with Fabian Fink at Stiege 13, Vienna (AT)

2021

"Women", curated by Elsa Okazaki at Austrian Fashion Association, Vienna(AT)

2020

"Off Grid" Independent Photo Festival, Vienna (AT)

2018

"Artist Feature" at Female Photographers Vienna, Vienna (AT)

2017

"Past Present Future ", curated by Sira-Zoé Schmid at Galerie Rudolf Leeb, Vienna (AT)



Untitled, 2022

c-print
60 x 40 cm (image size), framed
3 + 2 AP

Banner 450g UV print
350 x 217 cm
Unique

David Roth (Austria, 1985) graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (Austria) in 2011. He is based in Vienna, Austria.

David Roth's oeuvre is characterized by a variety of projects: He might use flowers as brushes, resulting in his "Flower Paintings" or drag canvases through forests, onto trees, or up onto mountains, even into a museum, he transforms paintings into a raft, a tent or a sledge, or stacks used, painted material on wooden trestles, resulting in four-legged, colourful, voluminous bodies pregnant with painting(s), he has named "Brains". He moves between multimedia and conceptual approaches – from painting on canvas, to video, photo and performative works, installations, and conceptual painting ideas. The common thread – or rather the origin of it – is questioning painting, questioning what painting is or was meant to be and questioning what painting can be. To him painting is primarily a verb, not a noun, an event first and only then a work of art.

Selected exhibitions (S / Solo, G / Group)

2025

upcoming Solo show at Elektrohalle Rhomberg, Salzburg (AT) S (May – July 2025)

2024

"Certain circumstances. Selected flowers." at Jean Guillaume Panis, Rouen (FR) S

"Body building" at Galeria Alegria, Barcelona (ES) S

"True Colours" at Kunstmuseum Den Haag, The Hague (NL) G

2023

"Landscapes" at Museum Schloss Moyland, Collection van der Grinten (DE) G

"Earth – A collective landscape", at Akzo Nobel Art Foundation, Amsterdam (NL) G

"Labour and Wait" at Dürst Britt & Mayhew, The Hague (NL) S

"Plein Air" at Graf+Zyx / TANK, Lower Austria (AT) S

2022

„Method Acting" at Galeria Alegria, Barcelona (ES) S

2021

"Imagine" at Bildraum 01, 2021, Vienna (AT)

Collections (selection)

Museum Schloss Moyland (DE)

AKZO Nobel Art Foundation (NL)

Aksenov Foundation (RU)

Collection Luciano Benetton (IT)

Landesmuseum Burgenland (AT)

Private collections



Certain Circumstances.
Selected Flowers.

Exhibition view (detail)
Paris, Rouen (fr)
2024/25

Photo © Fred Margueron

