

Jordy Kerwick

I am D. B. Cooper

June 29th – August 31st 2019

"For me, making art is synonymous with having fun. I think it would be one of very few "professions" that provide such rewarding returns on finding a sense of joy and playfulness. The constant need to play and have fun only leads to new and exciting possibilities, stark requirements for a long adventurous career in making art". Jordy Kerwick

Jordy Kerwick (*1982 in Melbourne, Australia, lives and works in France) is a shooting star, not only in his home country. In Denmark, Great Britain, the USA or Japan his paintings raise very much interest and become an object of cultural desire. Kerwick's works oscillate between abstraction and figuration. His pictorial style is timeless, cool, rough and without frills. The artist uses oil and acrylic in combination with collage techniques or different materials applied on the canvas.

Flowers in vases belong to the main motives revealing a beautiful and colourful angularity which turns the plants into ornaments. Beside the floral subjects one can see also some cigarettes which allude to the absence of something although it is obviously present. Because you might ask yourself: Who lights them up? And who is the one to smoke the cigarettes?

For Jordy Kerwick having fun as a painter also implies making allusions. For example alluding to historical events or placing pop cultural and art historical cross references in the suggested rooms which slightly pop up on the canvas. Not for nothing in his new cycle of paintings Jordy Kerwick arranges the flower vases up on books which lead into different thematic spheres. A sense of humor and a certain looseness are important for the pictorial process as well.

With „I am D. B. Cooper“ Galerie Rompone presents Jordy Kerwick's first German solo exhibition. Before this the painter joined the two group shows „Angry Boys“ (at the Cologne gallery and at Det Ny Kastet, Denmark) and „play/spiel. Eine ernste Angelegenheit/a serious matter“.

In his solo show Kerwick deals with the idea of the phantom. D. B. Cooper is a byname for a skyjacker who jumped off a Boeing 727 in 1971, taking with him a ransom of over one Million Dollar. Despite an extensive investigation, the perpetrator has never been located or identified.

Jordy Kerwick's paintings play with these kind of spheres which embody the feeling of the unknown and of identity.

Common things like flowers, rooms, cigarettes or books reflect something mysterious and unexpressed that you cannot capture.

The painted objects behave as willful and „strange“ as D.B. Cooper himself. What his arcane flowers are up to does not even Jordy Kerwick know by himself.

Claudia Cosmo

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fr/sa 1 – 6 p.m. and by appointment

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