

COMA

ANDRE HEMER

The Imagist and the Materialist

13 April - 18 May, 2018

The Imagist & The Materialist continues Hemer's study of the performance of images transitioning from digital to tangible. The works are in themselves a documentation of this action and carry the viewer along the stages in the transformation. The result is a middle ground – a visual purgatory of sorts – where space, light and colour are reimagined, and both the beginning and end result are there for all to see, yet it is this halfway point that intrigues the most.

When discussing Hemer's work the creative process is continually touched upon. The open-air scanning of various materials, drying and solidifying paint, bringing these newfound sculptural forms into the procedure and after relentless repetition building into a multi-layered union of deep image and physicality. It is through this manual operation that one can see that the process and conceptual nature of the work are one and the same.

Such intense scrutiny of image and its response to stress and change is symptomatic of painting and always has been, and while a critical view is generally reserved for a finished state Hemer brings into question the process as a whole and questions the value of image from genesis to resolution.

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André Hemer (born 1981, New Zealand) is a painter whose work explores the intersections between digital media and painting. He received his PhD in Painting from Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney, Australia and his MA from the Royal College of Art, London. Recent solo exhibitions include MAKING-IMAGE, Luis De Jesus Gallery, Los Angeles (2018) IRL, Yavuz Gallery, Singapore, (2017) Small Paintings IRL, Bartley and Company, Wellington (2017) Deep Surfacing at Luis De Jesus Gallery (2016) New Representation, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney (2015) while group shows include Andre Hemer – Paintings 2005-2015, Pataka Art + Museum Porirua City (2015) A Hot Mess at Fatiha Selam, Paris (2015) Metarealism, Palmer Art Projects, Sydney (2015) 100 Painters of Tomorrow, Beers Contemporary, London (2014) and Critical Intent, curated by Gary Sangster and Fan Lin, Guangzhou Art Center, Guangzhou (2014). Hemer is currently based in Vienna, Austria.

For additional information, interview requests, a show essay or artwork images, please email COMA at info@comagallery.com