The Pointillist Sculpture Park

A Solo exhibition in Gallery Arte Giani in Frankfurt Germany May /July 2012. The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue with an essay by Dr Francis Mckee

Submitted by Hanneline Visnes
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A solo exhibition of a body of paintings in Galleri Arte Giani, in Frankfurt.
This solo exhibition offered a chance to concentrate on, and make an in depth study of issues that are on going within my practice as a painter: detail and colour as a means of describing objects/space.

This exhibition reflects a sympathy and admiration for the French Post Impressionist painter Georges Seurat and his painstaking work that became termed «Pointillism». There is an oddity about this «ism», which led nowhere but remains an appendix to impressionism. Although in no way classed as «Outsider art» it shares many characteristics with art that is classified as such.

I have a long standing interest in, and enquiry into so called «outsider art». I first visited the Prinzhorn collection, in Heidelberg in 2009, after receiving an «Artist award» from Creative Scotland. During preparation for this exhibition I re-visited, and spent time in the archives of this collection, which houses one of the worlds largest collection of works by «psychologically experienced» artists and dated from 1909 and is still ongoing. There are aspects of many of the works within this tradition, and particular works in this collection, such as intensely rendered detail, colour luminosity and incorporation of both decorative and narrative elements that are relevant for the way I work myself.

The title «The Pointillist Sculpture Park» is a physically impossible proposition, which aims to both conjure certain mental images as well as underpin the paintings that physically contain this proposition.

«Bronze Head (Simon)» H.Visnes
2012
For this exhibition I produced a large body of paintings both oil and watercolour continuing long standing explorations within my practice of the physical and psychological intensity achieved in a painting using the formal properties of detail, pattern, mass, and colour. I wanted to explore the possibility of using these qualities and techniques to describe figures, and space. Whilst attempting to describe human and animal figures I wanted to withhold narrative, so I chose to use generic, mostly antique Egyptian, Greek and Roman sculptures as running motifs in this body of works. They are there mainly to serve as three dimensional forms, figures - and as what can be easily recognised as sculpture.

«Brave New World» H.Visnes 2012
Gallery Arte Giani is a private gallery in Frankfurt Germany, it is run by Dr Claudia Giani, an art historian with affiliations to many collections and museums in Germany and the rest of Europe. As a private collector of «Outsider art» Dr Giani has a strong connection to the Prinzhorn collection, and it was she who introduced it to me. The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue with an essay by Dr Francis Mckee.

As part of my research in the Prinzhorn collection I was able to introduce the museums director Dr Thomas Røske to the School of fine art and help organize his visit in 2010 to give a guest lecture on the collection, followed by a seminar that he and I conducted on related topics.
Acknowledgements

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