

Press release

PAUL WINSTANLEY · MARTIN BOROWSKI · LOUISE LAWLER
A Space For Contemplation

Opening: Tuesday, 19th of March 2013
Duration of the exhibition: 20th March – 11th May 2013

Galerie Andreas Binder is pleased to present A Space For Contemplation, a group show with the artists Paul Winstanley, Martin Borowski and Louise Lawler.

Paul Winstanley is a painter whose commitment to the traditional categories of the still life, the interior and the landscape is allied with an acknowledgement of the centrality of the photographic image to contemporary life. Winstanley's imagery derives from photographs, usually his own. At once methodical and melancholic, his painterly depictions of landscapes, deserted passages, lobbies and walkways, of empty college TV lounges and anonymous interview rooms, are generally rendered in a muted palette reminiscent of a blurred black-and-white snapshot. Hovering between the mundane and the dreamlike, Winstanley's images tease out beauty from the generic spaces of modern life. His subjects are quotidian but psychologically fraught, filled as they are with an almost cinematic sense of impending action. He captures liminal moments from a point of view that borders on anthropological: the artist's position is one of cool distance. Although these still, depopulated spaces are mundane, Winstanley suffuses them with a mood of melancholy or romance, revealing their psychological underpinnings. Winstanley cites influences as diverse as Vermeer, Brice Marden, and Richard Hamilton. His work is both concerned with how the photograph mediates our experience of vision, and how the painted world can overcome photography's supposed neutrality.

Born in 1954 in Manchester, England, Paul Winstanley lives and works in London. He was educated at Lanchester Polytechnic, Coventry, England; Cardiff College of Art, Wales; and the Slade School of Fine Art, London. Winstanley has exhibited throughout the U.S. and Europe. His first retrospective at the Auckland Art Space in New Zealand in 2008 was accompanied by a fully-illustrated catalogue. Winstanley has been included in group exhibitions at the Kunsthalle Hamburg (2011), Irish Museum of Modern Art (2009), Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (2008), The Renaissance Society, Chicago (2002); and Tate Gallery, London (1998). His work is in the collections of MOCA LA, IMMA, the Tate, and the Colby College Museum of Art, Maine, among many others. He has had recent solo exhibitions at Vera Munro, Hamburg, 1301PE, Los Angeles, Kerlin Gallery, Dublin and Mitchell-Innes & Nash, New York. Galerie Andreas Binder has been working with the artists since 1994.

Martin Borowski's works with a similar approach towards space – one of his favourite painterly topics. A great part of his Œuvre, consisting of paintings as well as graphic reproductions, show a particular interest in interiors and their details. Although many of the rooms are seen from the viewpoint of the person inside it, the rooms themselves are often deserted and radiate a calm silence. If an outline of a figure emerges, though, the person never becomes part of a story nor is psychological tension produced; instead the figure appears above all as an invigorating accessoire. The depicted places are anonymous, only semi-public spheres: offices, cafés, shopping arcades, museum spaces, waiting halls at airports and hotels as well as salesrooms of luxurious shops. They are no expressions of private, self-contained worlds, no sheltering enclosures, serving as imaginary, psychological retreats for their "inhabitants". For Borowski the genre of the interior, thus, is no metaphor for the internal or intimate. However, it is less the lack of the private, but more the often artificial light of the minimalistically designed rooms, which creates an austere atmosphere and a chilly sensuality.

Martin Borowski (*1970 in Hoyerswerda) studied from 1994 to 1999 at the Academy for Fine Arts (HfBK) in Dresden. 2001 he graduated at the HfBK Dresden as Master Scholar of Professor Ralf Kerbach. His works has been exhibited in solo exhibitions in Dresden, Berlin, New York and Rome, amongst others in group exhibitions at the Art Collection Gera, Helsinki City Art Museum, Dresden Royal Palace, Museum Moissbroich Leverkusen and Prague Biennale 2. Martin Borowski lives and works in Berlin. His works are part of numerous well-known collections such as the Frankfurt City Art Collection, Collection of the Dresdner Bank, Frankfurt am Main, Art Fund of the Free State of Saxony, The Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, New York, Dresden's Kupferstich-Kabinett as well as Berlin, the UniCredit Collection. Galerie Andreas Binder showed Martin Borowski for the first time in the group exhibition Pictures of Pictures in 2009.

Louise Lawler has devoted her art practice to investigating the life cycle of art objects. Her photographs depict art in the collector's home, the museum, the auction house, and the commercial gallery, on loading docks, and in storage closets. Her work offers a sustained meditation on the strategies of display that shape art's reception and distribution. The cumulative effect of Lawler's photographs is a silent insistence that context is the primary shaper of art's meaning. In that sense also the work „It could be Elvis“, showing a small detail of Warhol's screenprint of Joseph Beuys, is a fragment put into a new spatial context with a consciously puzzling title. Suffused with a special sense of irony, Lawler's witty, poignant, and trenchant photos frequently pay attention to a host of overlooked details -- almost Freudian slips -- that ineffably and tacitly shore up what we conventionally think of as art's "power."

Louise Lawler (*1947 in USA) studied at the Cornell University and lives and works in New York. Lawler's work can be found in major collections around the world, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Art Institute of Chicago, and Tate Britain in London. Her work has been exhibited at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York in its 1991, 2002, and 2008 biennials, the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington D.C., the Museum für Gegenwartskunst in Basel, and the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam. Galerie Andreas Binder showed Louise Lawler for the first time in the group exhibition Pictures of Pictures in 2009. From the 13th of October 2013 until January 2014 Louise Lawler will be shown in an extensive, retrospective solo exhibition at the Museum Ludwig, Köln.