

Press Release

DANIEL MAN
The PainThing

Opening: Thursday, January 29, 2026 | 6pm
Exhibition duration: January 20 – March 21, 2026

With the exhibition *The PainThing*, Galerie Andreas Binder is presenting works by the artist Daniel Man for the fourth time. In the current exhibition, paintings and murals merge into a spatially bound and interactive total work of art.

Daniel Man's most recent works reflect a presently turbulent time. The recent relocation of his studio, as well as social upheavals that extend far beyond the individual, play a key role in their creation.

In earlier phases of his work, fine, delicate patterns often served as the starting point for his painting and as the basic structure of the image. Currently, this relationship seems to be reversing: bold, confident color settings now serve as the basis for further image construction.

Daniel Man builds the works from several carefully considered layers. He creates each layer in correspondence with the existing pictorial elements - a process he describes as *censored form finding*. In this procedure, he repeatedly reframes the image from the outer edges and alters or shifts the weighting of existing elements until he reaches a final state.

The so-called *keyhole principle*, which Daniel Man has consistently pursued over a long period, is beginning to open up and lose its rigidity. However, the intuitive, meditative approach that significantly influences his painting and gives his works their extraordinary openness and immediacy remains central. The fast, conceptual work on the wall, which Daniel Man knows from his graffiti days, is taking a back seat to a very concentrated, layered approach. His work attitude requires an open and alert mind, a state of constant alertness and tension beyond comfort, familiar paths, or pleasant flow experiences.

The exhibition title refers to the high standard of confronting the emerging image as truthfully and relentlessly as possible at every moment of painting. Uncertainty, tension, and effort could mean *pain* and are an essential part of the process, not only in the creation of his paintings but also in his processing of social dynamics, which are reflected in his paintings. Man works mainly in acrylic but is increasingly using the airbrush technique, with which he is so well acquainted.

In Man's oeuvre, painting and wall design merge to create energetically charged spaces that make the pulse of the present palpable and generate an intense, site-specific sensuality.

Daniel Man (*1969, London) grew up in Hong Kong and Germany and currently lives and works in Augsburg. After a career as a graffiti artist, he first studied under Walter Dahn at the HBK Braunschweig and later under Markus Oehlen at the Academy of Fine Arts Munich. He has exhibited internationally since 2004. Recent exhibitions include: Halle I, Raum für Kunst im Glaspalast, Augsburg; Kunstverein Ebersberg; STOA169, Polling; Reinking Collection, Woods Arts Institute, Hamburg; Lenbachhaus und Kunstbau München; Verein für Originalradierung, München; Galerie der Künstler, München; Rathausgalerie, Munich; Biennale für Gegenwartskunst, Rüsselsheim; Kunstverein Wagenhalle, Stuttgart; Kunstraum Kreuzberg Bethanien, Berlin; Sammlung Reinking, Weserburg Museum für moderne Kunst, Bremen; Huntington Beach Art Center, L.A.; CDA Projects, Istanbul; Villa Merkel, Esslingen; Kunsthalle Barmen, Von der Heydt Museum Wuppertal; Kunsthalle Osnabrück; Kunstcentret Silkeborg Bad, Denmark; Kunstraum Innsbruck; etc.