

PRESS RELEASE

Tobias Pils

Happy Days

June 7 – July 20, 2024

Opening reception and book launch of *Drawings (2024)*, Friday, June 7, 6 – 8 pm

Maag Areal, Zahnradstr. 21, CH-8005 Zurich

Extended opening hours during Zurich Art Weekend:

Friday, June 7, 11 am – 8 pm; Saturday, June 8, 11 am – 8 pm; Sunday, June 9, 11 am – 6 pm

Galerie Eva Presenhuber is pleased to present *Happy Days*, the gallery's seventh solo exhibition by the Austrian artist Tobias Pils.

Happy Days

This exhibition consists of 2 Triptychs (*Happy Days, A Projection*), a family of eight paintings and one bronze. It might be the most intimate thus far.

Being a body.

Being part of a bigger body. A group, maybe.

Vis a Vis.

Shared consciousness whilst being together. Whilst being apart.

Togetherness and Loneliness.

Being held and holding each other.

Being reflected and mirrored in the opposite.

If there is a distance (and there is a lot of it), it's a distance from proximity.

I am Us.

It is about fragility, tenderness and vulnerability.

Some of these figures have faces without eyes, no mouth, no nose, etc.

A nobody who is somebody.

A blank surface for the viewer. For projection.

A possibility to get rid of my own persona.

A possibility for the painter to get rid of my own persona.

The painting is just a painting.

The painting process (act of painting) is the ultimate transformation- the moment of the unpredictable.

Painting is time and dissolves the concept of time at once.

I must live through a whole life with a painting so that it can be born.

A found egg.

Tobias Pils, April 2024

Tobias Pils was born 1971 in Linz, AT, and lives and works in Vienna, AT. In 2023, Pils curated the exhibition *Antoinette Zwirchmayr: In the stranglehold of ivy* at Galerie Eva Presenhuber in Vienna, AT, and together with Joe Bradley, *The Wing-Paysage* at Le Consortium Dijon, FR. In 2020, Pils' fresco, *Alpha, Omega & Infinity*, was unveiled in the Renzo Piano-designed École Normale Supérieure (ENS) Paris-Saclay, Gif-sur-Yvette, FR. Recent solo exhibitions in museums include Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn, DE (permanent installation) (2020); Josef Albers Museum, Bottrop, DE (2018); Kunsthalle Krems, Krems an der Donau, AT (2017); Le Consortium, Dijon, FR (together

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with Michael Williams) (2017); Chinati Foundation, John Chamberlain Building, Marfa, TX, US (2016); and Wiener Secession, Vienna, AT (2013). Recent group exhibitions include Museo Picasso in Málaga, ES (2023); Museum Moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig Wien, Vienna, AT (2021–2022); Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich, DE (2020–2021); Musée Picasso, Paris, FR (2020); Spritmuseum, Stockholm, SE (2019); Le Consortium Collection, Le Consortium, Dijon, FR (2018); Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, CO, US (2018); 21er Haus, Vienna, AT (2017); and Art Basel Unlimited, Basel, CH (2016).

For more information, please contact the sales team (onlinesales@presenhuber.com).

For press images and information, please contact David Ulrichs PR (press@presenhuber.com, +49 176 5033 0135).