

# Timespaces

**Julien Heintz, Cécile Lempert,  
Nicholas Marschner**

Opening reception Tuesday October 1st · 5.30pm– 8.30pm  
Exhibition from October 2 to October 5 2024



Nicholas Marschner, *untitled*, 2024, oil on linen, fabric border, 37x44.5cm

*'Believing in the world means bringing into events, however small, that are beyond our control, or creating new space-time, however small in surface area or volume'.*

Gilles Deleuze, interview with Toni Negri, *Futur antérieur*, no.1

*Galerie Elsa Meunier (Dans les yeux d'Elsa) is delighted to be presenting the work of Paris-based French artist Julien Heintz and Berlin-based English artist Nicholas Marschner for the first time, as well as that of German painter Cécile Lempert for the second time, a year after her solo show with the gallery.*

Julien Heintz, Cécile Lempert and Nicholas Marschner take us on a voyage through time using their art to. In each of their work, the canvas is used to anchor landscapes, scenes of life and faces in a constantly shifting moment. Vapid, mechanical, archival images call up memory and the importance of remembrance. These coming and going between the past and the present are intended to freeze a movement, a vivid glimmer. Each artist knows how to extract his or her subject to anchor it in a new, isolated context that leaves room for interpretation and universality, despite the source, be it historical, family or dream.

Julien Heintz draws his inspiration from historical documents relating wars and conflicts. In this way, he captures faces, sometimes those of soldiers, and places them on canvas. In this way, he reinforces the anonymity of his subject, and imposes it. From then on, they move and stretch, like a quivering spectre, reinforced by a truncated framing, typical of cinematographic composition. This vibration is the hinge that tilts his work into the in-between world of detail: we can almost perceive, almost touch, this feeling that something is escaping us. His technical process, the use of large brushes applied in a succession of very diluted colours on the surface, creates this pulsation in the blink of an eye. Recently, his desire to anchor his portraits more firmly in their temporality has manifested itself in the titles of his works. Through this process, he allows the subject to evoke their history, in an effort to give equal attention to all individuals.

Cécile Lempert uses photography as her favorite tool in her pictorial work. The artist adopts certain properties of photography, such as its more radical framing, which is particularly apparent in her split-screen compositions. It also allows her to elevate her more intimate family sources by combining them with historical iconographic references. In this way, Cécile Lempert broadens the scope of her subjects and their representations. It is through this dialogue between archives and personal archives that she finds the opening to a more distanced narrative, and in a new, chosen temporality. This chronological interplay allows her to explore the meaning of origins, belonging and roots, in order to better understand her present. Her use of ethereal, soggy colours preserves the flow of her subjects in watery, intangible scenes.

Nicholas Marschner immerses himself in memories. His canvas is the nocturnal theatre of floating silhouettes, evolving within scenes that escape us. By depicting these landscapes with their distant, blurred atmosphere, he attempts what no one else can: to capture the intangible, to relive the past, to catch a dream. To capture the evaporated, that only memory can save, is accompanied by painting, to preserve it forever, to echo the misty unconscious of each of us.

Thanks to the encounter between these three artists, the canvas has never been so mobile. It may not have the fluidity of a screen, but it brings to life moments that the naked eye cannot perceive. This is the power of painting, the power to diffuse matter, to expand time, to let us glimpse the tiny dilated movement that creates life, the better to continue outside the frame - and on multiple planes.

Eloïse Duguay

## The artists of the exhibition

### **Julien Heintz** (Born in 1997 - Paris, France)

A graduate of the Beaux Arts de Paris in June 2024, Julien Heintz has just presented a solo show at Pal Project, two years after his first solo show with the gallery. His work has also been selected for several group shows at : Pal Project (Paris), Monti 8 (Latina, Italy), JO-HS (Mexico) and Galerie John Ferrère (Paris). The artist will soon be in residence in Mexico at the invitation of the JO-HS gallery.

### **Nicholas Marschner** (Born in 1995 - London, England)

Nicholas Marschner is an English painter based in Berlin. He studied in London at London Metropolitan University. His work was the subject of a solo exhibition at the international art fair Art Brussels with the London gallery Alice Amati. The latter gallery had already presented his work in an online solo exhibition earlier this year.

Recently his work has been shown in several group exhibitions, notably at Alice Amati (London), Split Gallery (London) and by the Italian curator Caspar Giorgio Williams (Turin). With Galerie Elsa Meunier Nicholas Marschner is presenting his work for the first time in Europe and in Paris.

### **Cécile Lempert** (Born in 1994 - Dortmund, Germany)

Cécile Lempert is a German painter based in Cologne. A graduate of the Kunstakademie in Düsseldorf, the artist presented her first solo exhibition with the gallery in 2023. This was her first solo exhibition in Paris. Her work was the subject of several solo exhibitions between 2023 and 2024 in Germany and China: at Baustelle Schaustelle (Essen), Efremidis (Berlin), Braunsfelder (Cologne), Leo Gallery (Shanghai) et Super Super Markt (Berlin). Her work has also been presented for the first time at two international art fairs: Art Cologne (2023) and June Art Fair, Basel (2023).