

Piotr Krzymowski

Cédric Teisseire

hot, hot, hot

17 March - 29 April 2017

Private View: Thursday, 16 March, 6.30 - 8.30pm

l'étrangère is pleased to present *hot, hot, hot*, an exhibition of recent works by two artists, Piotr Krzymowski and Cédric Teisseire, who explore the transformative quality of heat as part of their creative processes. Working independently and using different media, their works connect not only through the processes they employ but also through the uncanny, abstract and bodily connotations. In their practices, both artists embrace controlled chance, found objects, art historical references, and the transformation of materials. Car lights are made fleshy, undulating and opaque. Celluloid film discards its captured scenes to reveal the forms, patterns and potential inherent within its physicality. Paint sags and creases in its assertion of its own corporeality and susceptibility to its environment.

Krzykowski presents a series of works, *I believe I can imagine a colour I have never seen before*, drawn from discarded strips of 16mm film that he retrieved from the refuse of the students' film lab and submerging them into boiling water. Through a lengthy process of experimentation he discovered that the celluloid 'produced' colours. By stitching the transformed film strips together, Krzymowski made a video which presents a cascade of colours and forms accompanied by the artist's monologue, attempting to define a new 'found' colour, considering the relationship between colour, language, and knowledge.

The series of works on paper are scanned and printed images of the strips of film. The artist has transformed the images further by applying gouache paint on their surface. The paint responds to the random composition of the heated celluloid, with its seemingly gestural forms and unexpected patterns.

For his on-going series, *Les Avatars*, Teisseire subjects mass produced car lights to the transformative action of heat by 'cooking' them in a hot oven. The only controlled element is the temperature of the oven and the length of 'cooking' time. The forms of the partially melted lights that emerge from this process retain a degree of the coloristic and formal identity of their primary state, but have morphed from slick, technical objects into something fleshy and organic. Both seductive and vaguely repulsive they suggest distorted organs, fleshy parts or abstract paintings.

Teisseire's series of paintings, *Saw City Destroyed Same*, refers to a statement made by a pilot who dropped the first atomic bomb on Nagasaki. He saw the city being destroyed, 'melting', through the heat impact of the bomb. He was the actor and the viewer at the same time. Teisseire creates his monochrome paintings by applying many layers of lacquer (glycérophtalic paint) onto the surfaces of the canvasses and letting the weight of the paint sag to form random creases, ridges and folds, seemingly like a 'melting' landscape observed from the plane, often extending beyond the frames of the paintings.

Piotr Krzymowski (born 1989, Poland). He completed his BA (HONS) Fine Art at Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design and now lives and works in London.

Attracted to the cinematography of the French New Wave and the graphic design and editorial culture of the 1950s and 60s, Piotr Krzymowski often references the aesthetic of the era. Through working with film, collage/decollage, print and paint, Krzymowski's work often excavate redundant technology and archival sources that he takes as his starting point.

Recent exhibitions and projects include: *Neon Inn*, Warsaw, 2016 (upcoming), *Layered Narratives*, l'étrangère, London, 2016, *Guests of Honour*, Hotel Bristol, Warsaw (2015); *Juice*, Acme Project Space, London (2015); *The Drawers*, Kasia Michalski Gallery, Warsaw (2015); *Image to scale*, ACME+CSM Associate group show, John McAslan Gallery, London (2014); *Sunday*, collaboration with Thomas McCaughan, Coleman Project Space, London (2014); *a glitch*, Die-Ohrring-Boutique, curated by MARS!, Munich (2013); *Bloomberg New Contemporaries*, Liverpool Biennial and ICA, London (2012).

Screenings and Festivals include: *Here is always somewhere else*, PALA project, intermittent digital broadcast (2014); *Selected III - US tour*, touring programme produced in partnership with Videoclub and Film London Artists' Moving Image Network (FLAMIN) (2014); *Summer Screening, Season 1*, Almanac Projects, London (2013); *Kalina/ Kalina*, Galeria Praca, Warsaw (2012); *Analogue Recurring*, curated by Bea Haut and David Leister, Lo&Behold Gallery, London (2012); Aesthetica Short Film Festival

Cédric Teisseire (born 1968, Grasse, France), lives and works in Nice, France, is a co-founder of artists-run space, La Station in Nice (1996), co-founder of Botox's Network of contemporary art Alpes & Riviera (2007), has been a Teacher at l'École Supérieure d'Art et de Design Toulon, Provence Méditerranée since 2009. In 2016 he was appointed the Artistic director of Project 109, Old Abattoirs, Nice.

Essentially a painter, Teisseire uses paint as a physical material to be manipulated, by pouring it, giving it in to gravity, chance and time. Those transformational processes focused on materiality, texture and surface are central to his practice. In his own words: The idea that one can take one thing for another greatly motivates my production and pushes my paintings on a field of interpretation beyond the sole field of abstraction; In the sense that I try to cross or confuse the organization.

Since 1993 Teisseire has been actively exhibiting thought Europe and has taken part in many prestigious institutional exhibitions including Galerie des Musées, Toulon, France, Museum of Art and History of Provence, Grasse, France, Villa Arson, Nice, France, Château-Musée Grimaldi, Haut-de-Cagnes, France, MAMAC, Nice, France, La Maison Rouge, Paris, France, Musée Muséum départemental de Gap, France, MAMAC Musée Chagall, Nice, France, Centre d'Art de Neuchâtel, Switzerland, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France, Kerava Art Museum, Kerava, Finland, Museum of Grenoble, France, Muséo Laboratorio, La Station, Rome, Italy, Museum of Art and History, Neuchâtel, Switzerland, Kunsthalle Palazzo, Liestal, Switzerland, Kunsthaus Baselland, Muttentz, Switzerland, Kunstverein Freiburg, Germany, Palais Thurn und Taxis, Bregenz, Austria, Ludwig Museum of Modern Art, Vienna, Austria, France, Akademie of Fine Arts in Munich, Germany, Bordeb, Lyon Biennale, Vienne, France