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Florian & Michael Quistrebent

Sweet Leaf

29 October - 10 December

Ever since 2004 the brothers Florian and Michael Quistrebent have developed a practice that grounds itself in the core of seduction, ushering plain materials in the possibility of the sublime. Sculptural, pasty and blobby strokes of modelling paste, wrapped in layers of blinding pigments, cover the surface of hanging and moving canvasses, and coexist amongst detailed geometrical abstract patterned paintings and videos with psychedelic tendencies. A diverse oeuvre that demonstrates a strong connection to the spiritual and illusive origination of art from the 1960's and 70's. Whereby the manner to which extend the eye - and so the mind - of the beholder can be manipulated via the actual movement of forms and the suggestion of this movement, could be considered as the main element of their appropriation.

By continuously working in series the artists are able to question and analyse the nature of the abstract language in a more general as well as self reflective manner, which allows them to experiment through their own set of rules.

Within the second solo exhibition at Juliette Jongma, the brothers Quistrebent have stripped back the Overlight-series of paintings to its essence of form and shape, rather than putting a focus on its pigmented skin. Ghost-like transparent resin casts hang from the ceiling of the gallery and picture the space in thick brush strokes, reminiscent - and casting the aura - of the shape of the modelling paste from the paintings hanging on the wall. Some works lure the eye by colour, whilst others are brought back to the gist of the raw paste. Small led lights re-occur and guide the eye through the material.

Similar to previous exhibitions, the Quistrebent brothers merge twinkles of postmodern irony to push the paintings out of the comfort zone of the flat surface, and render them as props in the scene of the installation. Whereas being highly sensual, their practice is hard to fully grasp. It dazzles the staring gaze of the individual, and simultaneously remains nothing else then tangible matter.

Jeanine Hofland

Florian & Michael Quistrebert were born in Nantes, France in 1982 and 1976 and currently live and work in Amsterdam and Paris. The brothers participated in several residencies in France, The United States and The Netherlands, including Rijksakademie in Amsterdam. Together they created a variety of works including videos and paintings.

Recent solo exhibitions include The Light of the Light at Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2016) and Visions of Void at Dundee Contemporary Arts, UK (2015). In 2014 they were nominated for Prix Marcel Duchamp, Paris. They recently participated in the group exhibition Close Up at EYE Film Institute, Amsterdam (2016) and Superficial Hygiene at De Hallen, Haarlem, The Netherlands (2014). Florian and Michael Quistrebert's work can be found in prominent international collections, such as the finest Amsterdam Contemporary Art Collection ever ..., the art collection of ABN AMRO, and the Frédéric de Goldschmidt Collection.