

Dieter Mammel

ADRIFT

08.02.2020 14:00 Uhr

**Vernissage am 8. März 2020 14:00 Uhr
Mit Concert von Leonhard Dering - Piano**

Curator: Tanya Berlinski

artloft.berlin
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Colored drops of water, flowing into one another, creating a picture: upon close view this would be an apt description of Dieter Mammel's fragile paintings. Applying his paint on unprimed canvas,

Mammel concentrates his work in series, always in one particular color and tonality. In this watery, often diffuse world of light

and shadow, humans and animals threaten to go adrift.

Mammel, the son of migrants pondering his own family story, shows the human being as a seeker with only tenuous connections. At times, his motifs refer back to the Romantic paintings of Caspar David Friedrich. Mammel transforms Friedrich's "Monk by the Sea" into a narcissist taking a Selfie. The cross in the mountains is now a Yoga Tree.

At the same time, the pictures express a melancholy solemnity

as they play about in the realm of the un-conscious and the surreal, or allude with dark humor to the current global perils of migration, environmental ruin, and species under threat.

His animals accuse us with their unavoidable gaze, a connection that can suddenly be lost in self-absorbed play. Then Mammel

sets us free in a poetic interpretive space in which we too can become completely absorbed. Looking into a bonfire, we stare at one tiny point – the planet Venus. A miniscule light of hope, perhaps,

before the Earth is extinguished along with us?

Dieter Mammel's Adrift is part of a series of exhibitions at Gerichtstrasse 23 in Berlin, a building that has become a dynamic multicultural organism, described by visitors from many corners of the world as an edifice with an open free-spirited character. G.23 is composed of layers of continuously developing creative activities, exploring new initiatives across various disciplines.

Poster-Design by Sebastian Mayer

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