

PRESS RELEASE

galerie burster karlsruhe

Maria Schumacher | Rushing Through The Day

11 April – 01 June 2024

Opening

Thursday, 11 April 2024, 6 – 9 pm

Artist Talk | Catalogue Launch

Friday, 24 May 2024, 5– 8 pm

We are pleased to announce Maria Schumacher's second solo exhibition at galerie burster Karlsruhe from 11 April to 1 June under the title *Rushing Through The Day*.

In her paintings, the artist deals with the creation of narrative-psychological spaces within which she explores the complexity of relationship structures and, more generally, the fundamental questions of human existence. States such as loneliness, fear, grief, love and sexuality and their universal nature preoccupy her just as much as the use of patterns, ornamental arrangements and the ritualistic charging of signs and symbols. The forms and figures depicted by Schumacher can have different effects depending on how they are viewed and are particularly multi-layered.

In her *Staircase* series, the bodies tumble head over heels down the stairs and it almost seems as if the shock, haste and hurry are transferred to the texture of the painting. Instead of a smooth motif, the paintings are made up of a multitude of pixels, similar to those found in digital images. The pixelation creates a field of tension between figuration and abstraction. This can be observed particularly impressively in the contour lines, which frame the physicality of the figures, but at the same time emerge as many individual areas of colour that no longer form a continuous line.

Schumacher does not specify how her works are to be interpreted; instead, through the dynamic and versatile application of her own methods, they seem to continually escape unambiguity and thus exhibit numerous parallels to the complexity of our contemporary reality.

Folkloristic references that can be found in her works have their origins not least in Schumacher's Romanian origins and her involvement with Balkan folk art. Her works create a meditative space that challenges a slowed-down aesthetic perception and at the same time invites the viewer to engage with existential questions of meaning.

Maria Schumacher (*1983, Bucharest, Romania) lives and works in Leipzig. She studied painting at the Leipzig Academy of Visual Arts (HGB) in the Neo Rauch and H. C. Ottersbach class from 2005 to 2011. She completed her master's degree at the San Francisco Art Institute in the US as part of a Fulbright scholarship from 2011 to 2012. Schumacher currently works as an artistic assistant at the HGB.

For further information please contact Rita Burster: rita.burster@galerieburster.com

Opening hours: Thursday – Friday 12 – 6 pm and by appointment