

PRESS RELEASE // CAROLINE PAGÈS GALLERY



Gerold Miller, *Instant Vision 15*, 2008, highgloss on aluminium, 30x24x2,3 cm

Lori Hersberger, Francisco da Mata, Gerold Miller ***A Triple Act***

November 13, 2008 – January 3, 2009

Opening reception on Thursday, November 13 at 10 pm

The artists will be present

Guided tour by Francisco da Mata on Saturday, November 15 at 5pm

Caroline Pagès Gallery

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Opening hours: Monday through Saturday 3 - 5 pm and by appointment.

A Triple Act presents the work of artists **Lori Hersberger, Francisco da Mata** and **Gerold Miller** for the first time in Portugal.

This exhibition comprises a body of work in which each artist has a dedicated space but which nevertheless operates as a collective whole. Lori Hersberger exhibits collages on paper and an installation of black glass; Francisco da Mata, paintings on paper, a wall painting and an installation; and there are paintings on aluminium by Gerold Miller.

Strictly speaking, *A Triple Act* represents each artist's specific approach to the use of colour, form and space. However, the exhibition's energy comes from the communication established between the works, raising questions about each painting and each perspective. Without negating the obvious theatricality which results, the works achieve a consonance in extrapolating the space that they inhabit, reclaiming a sense of direction for themselves.

Lori Hersberger introduces colour in an advanced state of exhaustion and energy, a paradigmatic expression of his work. By enabling the production of fictitious spaces where the dimension between reality (and its fragments) and the dream state are manifested in the suspension of feeling, the artist creates intensities and tensions which trigger various levels of perception in the observer. Francisco da Mata's work offers us the opportunity to reassess; he creates a platform of reflections based upon a sophisticated irony/distortion of the models of contemporary society, and its associated aesthetic linked to consumption and to the semantic universe of reality versus illusion. Gerold Miller explores the supposed divide between painting and sculpture, developing experiences which remain in the computation of optical intervention. By establishing a link to the spatial premises underlying form, in conceptual terms he institutes a dual process: a crisis in the perception of images and in how they are translated into art.

Lori Hersberger (CH 1964) His work has been shown in international institutions and galleries since the early 90s. Currently, he holds an individual exhibition at the Contemporary Art Museum in Lyon; his work was shown individually at the Contemporary Art Museum and Kunsthalle in Basel, at the Zurich Kunsthhaus, at the Neuchâtel Contemporary Art Centre, at the Karlsruhe Kunstverein and at the Swiss Institute in New York. He is represented by the Thaddaeus Ropac gallery in Salzburg and Paris, Mehdi Chouakri in Berlin, Lange & Pult in Zurich, and Spencer Brownstone in New York. His works are part of prestigious Swiss and German institutional and private collections such as the Emanuel-Hoffmann-Stiftung, that of Hauser & Wirth, the Allerheiligen, Würth and Luzern Museums, Alexander Bürkle, UBS, Credit-Suisse and Julius Bär.

Francisco da Mata (PT 1968) lives in Switzerland. It is the first time that his work is being shown in Portugal. He is also currently taking part in the travelling collective exhibition curated by João Pinharanda *Lá Fora* shown at Viana do Castelo and then in Lisbon. Since 2000, he has taken part in many exhibitions in Switzerland, Europe and China. Among other institutions, his works have been recently shown at the Contemporary Art Centre as well as the Art and History Museum in Neuchâtel, at the La Chaux-de-Fonds Beaux-Arts Museum in Switzerland and at the Andratx Contemporary Art Centre in Mallorca. He is represented by the Lange & Pult gallery in Zurich and Edward Mitterrand in Geneva. His work is part of Swiss, German and Spanish - CCAndratx, Mallorca - institutional and private collections.

Gerold Miller (DE 1961) has shown his work extensively in international institutions and galleries since the late 80s. Among other institutions, his work was shown individually at the Contemporary Art Museum Hamburger Bahnhof in Berlin, at the Centre for Contemporary Non-Objective Art in Brussels, at the Winterthur and Luckenwalde Kunsthallen, at the Ostwall and Singen Art Museums, and at the Modern Art Institute in Brisbane. He is represented by Mehdi Chouakri in Berlin, Krobath Wimmer in Vienna and Ruzicka in Salzburg, Lange & Pult in Zurich, and Rocket Gallery in London. His work is part of major German, Austrian, Swiss and French institutional and private collections such as that of the Berlinische Galerie, Deutsche Bank, Daimler and Société Générale in Paris.

Rita Santos, October 2008
Caroline Pagès Gallery

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