

ANDY DENZLER/
BETWEEN THE
SHADOWS



OPERA GALLERY

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25 November - 11 December 2022

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Foreword

Opera Gallery is proud to present *Between the Shadows*, a solo exhibition of new works by Swiss artist Andy Denzler.

As the title suggests, shadows play a central role in the series. Denzler examines the space in between, the moments of empty space on the canvas surface, as a continuous exploration of what he does not see or what appears in the composition as a latent ambiguity. In this recent body of works, the abstract and the reality that arise between the subject and the object draws the viewer into the painting. In these enigmatic scenes shadow and light are essential. In the black paintings the background merges with the foreground and the shadow in between. Like in a historical portrait *Edge of Desire II* includes the vintage furnished studio as a stage for the sitter representing the artist's own cosmos.

In the painting *Falling out of the Shadow I* from which the exhibition title is from, depicts a portrait, like snapshot of a young woman, in a peculiar position leaning backwards as if she would fall out of the frame. The painting *Horse in Black on Maroon* represents a horse in a dark surreal atmosphere in which the shadow takes over the whole background and general composition. In *Fragmented Chair* we see a young man sitting on a double exposed chair. Denzler follows up on the concept based on the filmic and photographic language he has used over the years in his visual language. The painting *Motion Study of Ella II* is based on the motion studies of Eadweard Muybridge where he created sequential series of photographs.

Denzler's works are known for capturing the human condition in figurative paintings inspired by photography. Each brushstroke on a painting starts with the human figure and the interior is built around that. Denzler uses his studio as a stage with props and furniture to compose the space, painted in loose, free brushstrokes using a combination of heavy impasto oil paints and dripping turps. By using cream colours of sienna browns, broken whites and raw umber, the pieces have a warm feel yet gradually evoke memories, longing and melancholic. But it's the uncanny juxtaposition that creates the tension in these latest works painted in oil on canvas.

Poetic, mysterious, oniric. Opera Gallery welcomes you to *Between the Shadows* and invites you to explore this nostalgic voyage through Andy Denzler's universe, where shadows and light play together on the canvas to offer an existential meditation .

Gilles Dyan
Founder and Chairman
Opera Gallery Group

Stéphane Le Pelletier
Director, Asia-Pacific
Opera Gallery Asia-Pacific

Irene Chee
Gallery Manager
Opera Gallery Singapore

New works

Edge of Desire II
2022

Oil on canvas
200 x 180 cm | 78.7 x 70.8 in



It's Getting Stormy

2022

Oil on canvas

50 x 40 cm | 19.7 x 15.7 in



Motion Study of Ella II
2022

Oil on canvas
Triptych: 180 x 150 cm | 70.9 x 59.1 in



The Painter's Room VII
2022

Oil on canvas
Triptych: 180 x 450 cm | 70.9 x 59.1 in



Edge of Desire III
2022

Oil on canvas
180 x 150 cm | 70.9 x 59.1 in



In the Treehouse

2022

Oil on canvas

120 x 140 cm | 47.2 x 55.1 in



Woman with Tapedeck
2022

Oil on canvas
140 x 120 cm | 55.1 x 47.2 in



Buffalo Dusk
2022

Oil on canvas
200 x 300 cm | 78.7 x 118.1 in



Black on Maroon I

2022

Oil on canvas

180 x 150 cm | 70.9 x 59.1 in



Falling Out of the Shadow I
2022

Oil on canvas
140 x 120 cm | 55.1 x 47.2 in



Falling Out of the Shadow II
2022

Oil on canvas
140 x 120 cm | 55.1 x 47.2 in



The Laughing one
2022

Oil on canvas
60 x 50 cm | 23.6 x 19.7 in



Edge of Desire IV
2022

Oil on canvas
210 x 180 cm | 82.7 x 70.9 in



Fragmented Chair
2022

Oil on canvas
210 x 180 cm | 82.7 x 70.9 in



Study for Fragmented Chair
2022

Oil on canvas
60 x 50 cm | 23.6 x 19.7 in



Black on Maroon II
2022

Oil on canvas
120 x 140 cm | 47.2 x 55.1 in



Study for Portrait of E.
2022

Oil on canvas
Triptych: 50 x 120 cm | 19.7 x 47.2 in



Abstract Thoughts I
2022

Oil on canvas
210 x 180 cm | 82.7 x 70.9 in



Abstract Thoughts II
2022

Oil on canvas
120 x 140 cm | 47.2 x 55.1 in



Abstract Thoughts III
2022

Oil on canvas
120 x 140 cm | 47.2 x 55.1 in



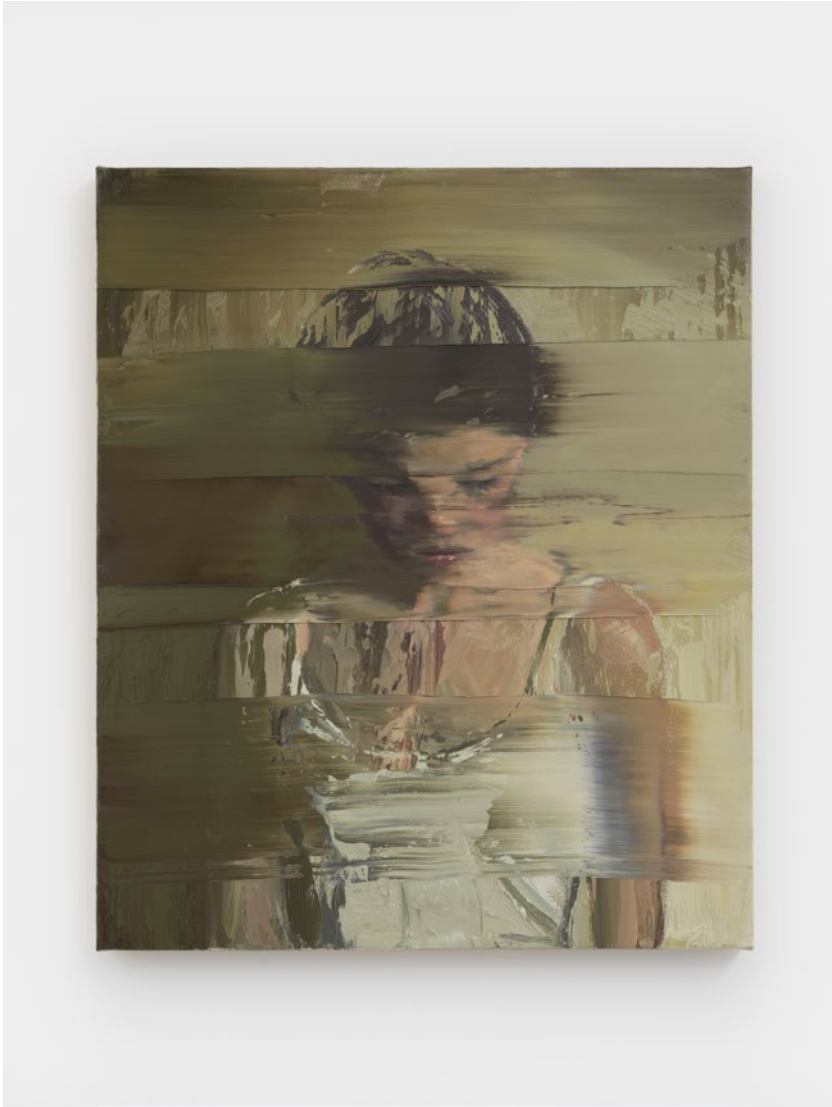
Study for Portrait of P. in Maroon
2022

Oil on canvas
60 x 50 cm | 23.6 x 19.7 in



Study for Portrait of P. in Cream
2022

Oil on canvas
60 x 50 cm | 23.6 x 19.7 in



Study for Portrait of P. in Black
2022

Oil on canvas
60 x 50 cm | 23.6 x 19.7 in



Study of a Small Interior
2022

Oil on canvas
70 x 80 cm | 27.5 x 31.5 in



Black on Maroon III
2022

Oil on canvas
180 x 150 cm | 70.9 x 59.1 in



Horse in Black on Maroon
2022

Oil on canvas
50 x 60 cm | 19.7 x 23.6 in





Andy Denzler

b. 1965

Andy Denzler is a Zürich-based artist. After studying at F&F Schule für Gestaltung Zürich and UCLA, he went on to train at Pasadena's ArtCenter College of Design, followed by a Master of Fine Arts degree at the Chelsea College of Art and Design (now the Chelsea College of Arts) in London. Denzler's approach is figurative, working large scale using oil on canvas. His method is to add dynamic new layers to the traditional art of capturing the figure using paint. Treating oil paint as if they were cinematic, his compositions are given an additional layer of dynamism and life through the sweeps and cuts Denzler makes on the surface before the paint is fully dry. These interventions reference the fast forward and paused distortion of a videotape head clamping down on a freeze frame, or the jagged interpolations of a digital glitch. The portraits become animated, as if stills from an imaginary film, with figures – often posed in diptychs and triptychs – set against fantastical or cinematic backdrops.

Denzler has exhibited in galleries around the world, with recent shows in Geneva, New York, Seoul and Berlin. Denzler also uses juxtaposition, incorporating classical modes of composition and framing that are subtly undermined and subverted by his painting technique.

Biography

1965 Born in Zurich
Lives and works in Zurich

EDUCATION

2006 Master of Fine Arts, Chelsea College of Art and Design, London
1981 Kunstgewerbeschule, Zurich

GRANTS/AWARDS

2014 International Artist Residency, Art Factory, Budapest
1997 Ernst Göhner Stiftung, Zug
1996 Cassinelli-Vogel-Stiftung, Zurich
Erziehungsdirektion des Kantons, Zurich BIENNALES

BIENNALES

2016 Not New Now, Marrakech Biennale 6, Marrakech
2015 Memory and Dream, 6th Beijing International Art Biennale, Beijing

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022 Between The Shadows, Opera Gallery, Singapore
Paintings of Disruption II, Gallery Bisunjae, Seoul
Out of the Dark, Opera Gallery, Paris
2021 Anatomy of the Mind, Opera Gallery, London
2020 Fractured, Opera Gallery, Geneva
2019 Paintings of Disruption, Opera Gallery, Seoul
Introspection, Opera Gallery, New York
2018 Human Perspectives, Opera Gallery, Zurich
The Dark Corner of the Human Mind, Kunstforum Wien, Vienna
The Painter’s Room, Opera Gallery, Paris
2017 Fragmented Identity, Opera Gallery, Monaco
Fragmented Figures, Schultz Contemporary, Berlin
2016 Random Noise, Fabian & Claude Walter Galerie, Zurich
Suspended Reality, Opera Gallery, New York
Between Here and There, Opera Gallery, London
2015 Breakfast with Velázquez, Michael Schultz Gallery, Berlin
Just Another Day in Paradise, Brotkunsthalle, Vienna
Sequences, Opera Gallery, Geneva
Figures & Interiors, Ludwig Galerie Schloss Oberhausen, Oberhausen
2014 Distorted Moments, Ludwig Museum, Koblenz
The Forgotten Palace, Budapest Art Factory, Budapest
Under My Skin, Fabian & Claude Walter Galerie, Zurich
Between the Fragments, Claire Oliver Gallery, New York
2013 Disolution & Resolution, Kunstraum Osper, Cologne

Empire Inc., Kunsthalle Rostock, Rostock
2012 Interior/Exterior, Michael Schultz Gallery, Berlin
The Sounds of Silence and Distortion, Claire Oliver Gallery, New York
Shifting Landscapes, Kunsthalle Dresden, Dresden
Disturbia, Michael Schultz Gallery, Seoul
Developing Landscapes, Gwangju Museum of Art, Gwangju
2011 Dissonance & Contemplation, Claire Oliver Gallery, New York
Freeze Frame, Michael Schultz Gallery, Seoul
Interiors, Fabian & Claude Walter Galerie, Zurich
2010 The Human Nature Project, Schultz Contemporary, Berlin
Distorted Fragments, Art + Art Gallery, Moscow
2008 Shortcuts, Fabian & Claude Walter Galerie, Zurich
A Day at the Shore, Ruth Bachofner Gallery, Los Angeles
Insomnia, Galeria Filomena Soares, Lisbon
2006 Fusion Paintings, Ruth Bachofner Gallery, Los Angeles
Moon Safari, Chelsea College, University of the Arts, London
2005 American Paintings, Kashya Hildebrand, New York
2004 Blur Motion Abstracts, Ruth Bachofner Gallery, Los Angeles
2002 White Paintings, Ruth Bachofner Gallery, Los Angeles

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2021 Flux & Metamorphosis, Centro de Artes Contemporanea de Coimbra, Coimbra
MISA, Van Ham Kunst_Halle, Wesseling
Zwischenzeit, Kunstwerk Sammlung Klein, Eberdingen-Nussbaum
2020 The Monaco Masters Show, Opera Gallery, Monaco
2019 The Monaco Masters Show, Opera Gallery, Monaco
2018 Abstracting the Real, Opera Gallery, Geneva
Masters Unveiled, Opera Gallery, Monaco
Painted Images, Sanatorium, Istanbul
The Monaco Masters Show, Opera Gallery, Monaco
Portrait, Opera Gallery, New York
2017 Painting, Leahn Gallery, Daegu
The Monaco Masters Show, Opera Gallery, Monaco
Autumn Leaves, Michael Schultz Gallery, Berlin
Transit, Michael Schultz Gallery, Berlin
2016 Creative Frenzy, Schultz Contemporary, Berlin
Monochromaniac, Opera Gallery, New York
Thirty Year Anniversary, Fabian & Claude Walter Galerie, Zurich
Addicted to Painting, Michael Schultz Gallery, Berlin
Something, Berry Campbell, New York
2015 Imago Mundi, Luciano Benetton Collection, Fondazione Giorgi Cini, Venice
Dancer in the Dark, Schultz Contemporary, Berlin
2014 Wunderkammer, Fabian & Claude Walter Galerie, Zurich
The Weekly Show, Schultz Contemporary, Berlin
In|Outsource, Amnua Museum, Nanjing

Biography

2013

Wild Heart: Art Exhibition of German Neo Expressionism Since the 1960s, China Art Museum, Shanghai

Obscure, Fabian & Claude Walter Galerie, Villa Renata, Basel

Salondergegenwart, Hamburg

Bosporus Brake, BAP Gallery, Istanbul

Q.T., World Art Museum, Beijing

Infinity - Neoexpressionism / Contemporary Art, Zhan Zhou International Cultural and Creative Industry Park, Beijing

2012

Beyond Bling, Claire Oliver Gallery, New York

Abgrung und Pathos, Schultz Contemporary, Berlin

Beyond the Paramount, Galerie Michael Janssen, Berlin

2011

10-20-10, Claire Oliver Gallery, New York

Surface, Claire Oliver Gallery, New York

2010

Silly Gooses Live in The Dark, UF6 Projects, Berlin

The Big World, Fabian & Claude Walter Galerie, Zurich

2009

Nursery Rhymes, Flowers East, London

The Beautiful Painting Show, Fabian & Claude Walter Galerie, Zurich

The Lure and The Seducer, Christoffer Egelund Gallery, Copenhagen

White Snow, Ruth Bachofner Gallery, Los Angeles

2008

Future50, PSL Project Space, Leeds

Kapellmeister Pulls A Doozy, Seven Seven, London

Unnatural Habitats, Flowers East, London

2007

Kindheit, Museum Rohnerhaus, Lauterach

Anticipation, One One One, Flora Fairbairn Projects, London

Dorian Gray Projects, John Jones Projects Space, London

2005

Summer Exhibition, Ruth Bachofner Gallery, Los Angeles

PROJECTS

2008

Future50 PSL Project Space, Leeds, curated by Ceri Hand and Liz Aston

2007

Dorian Gray Project, John Jones Project Space, London

Anticipation, One One One, Flora Fairbairn Projects, London, curated by Flora Fairbairn, Kay Saatchi and Catriona Warren

REVIEWS & PUBLICATIONS

2019

Park Kyum-Sook: Paintings of Disruption, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Seoul, October

Fan Xiaonan: Images of the Society of the Spectacle, Beijing, February

2018

David Rosenberg. Human Perspectives, Opera Gallery, Zurich, December.

Jordan Lahmi: Masters Unveiled, Opera Gallery, Geneva, July.

Enguerrand Lascols: The Painter’s Room, Opera Gallery, Paris, May

2017

Christian Longchamp: Masques et Spectres Notes pour une Dramaturgie, Opera National de Paris, December

Danièle Perrier: Fragmented Figures, schultz contemporary, November

Phoebe Hoban: Distorted Fragments, Damiani, June

2016

Katie Shuff: Reality Glitch, Schön Magazine, February

Noah Becker: Suspended Reality, Opera Gallery, New York, (catalogue), October

Sohei Oshiro: Motion & Distortion, Them Magazine, June

Noah Becker: Between Here and There, White Hot Magazine, May

Noah Becker: Between Here and There, Opera Gallery, London, (catalogue), May

2015

Christoph Tannert: The Granular Surfaces of Painting, Schultz Contemporary, Berlin, (catalogue), November

Andreas Reusch: Figures & Interiors: Die Störung des Klaren Blickes, Schraege-O, June

Andrea Micke: Bildstörung in der Ludwiggalerie Neue Kunstverein Ausstellung, WAZ, May

Jordan Lahmi: Sequences, Opera Gallery, Geneva, (catalogue), May

Sasha Graybosh: Risk is Central to the Concept of Adventure, Canteen, May

May Karin Dubert: Verzerzte Momente, Wochen Anzeiger Oberhausen, May

Daniele Giustolisi: Andy Denzler in der Ludwiggalerie im Schloss Oberhausen, May

Susanne Braun: Distorted Moments, Portal Kunstgeschichte, January

2014

Ildegarda Scheidegger: The Power of the Painted Image, Ludwig Museum, (monograph), December

Beate Reifenscheid: Distorted Moments, Ludwig Museum, (monograph), December

Kristell Pfeifer: 100 Miradas, Arte Al Limite Art Magazin, November

Fernando Galan: The Forgotten Palace, art.es Project 50, September

Marc Valli and Margherita Dessanay: A Brush with the Real:Figurative Painting Today, Laurence King Publishing Ltd., March

2013

Naoto Miyazaki: Interview Montem Magazin, December

Nichelle Cole: Fetish for Andy Denzler, Rough Italia Magazine

Billy Rood: Terrestrial Transmission, Glitch Paintings by Andy Denzler, FIFTY8 Magazine, December

Ulrich Ptak: Interview, Dontpostme Magazine, October

Michael Meyer: Serien des Menschlichen, Ostsee Zeitung, May

Juliane Hinz: Zeitgenössische Kunst Dreimal Anders, Norddeutsche Neuste Nachrichten, May,

Lin Urman: Interview, hDL Magazine, March

Ulrich Ptak: Glitch Paintings, Kunsthalle Rostock, (catalogue), March

P.L. Grand: Empire Inc., Kunsthalle Rostock, (catalogue), March

Emanuela Amato: Sacrifice, Line Virtual Magazine, February

Christsine Gorve: Interview, Liveoutloud Magazine, January

2012

Kim Min-Kyeong: Hypnotized, Gwangju Museum of Art, April

Sabin Bors: Intermediate Framings, Gwangju Museum of Art, (catalogue), April

Ingeborg Ruthe: Die Unnahbare Berliner Zeitung, December

Motion Pictures, Art Investor Magazine, September

Anne C. Holmes: We Can Never Stake a Claim on Another Body, Dapper Dan Magazine, Fall

Margherita Visentini: Interview, Trendland, September

JL Schnabel: The Art of Andy Denzler, HI Fructose Magazine, January

2011

Der Kunstmaler, FELD100 Magazine, December

Violet Shuraka: Interview Cheap & Plastic, November

Margherita Dessanay: Cinematic Paintings, Elephant Magazine, No. 6

Jolijn Snijders: Interview, ILOVEFAKE Magazine, September

Richard Warren: Interview and Trends Scope, Identity Magazine, September

Book Review: Mensch, The Human Nature Project, artensuite, August

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Biography

2010

Simone Toellner: Interview, Untitled Magazine, July
Nadine Brüggebors: The Human Nature Project, Hatje Cantz, (monograph), March
Russian Esquire Magazine, March
Neue Maler bei Michael Schultz, Berliner Woche, August
Gerhard Charles Rump: Erzählt, Gemalt, Verwischt: Andy Denzler in Berlin, Die Welt, July
Florence Ritter: Distorted Fragments, Kinki Magazine, No. 27

2009

Leonie Schilling: Brush Strokes of Movements, Art Global Allimite, No. 38

2008

PSL (Project Space Leeds) and Axis by curator Ceri Hand and Liz Aston: Future50 the Most Interesting and Significant UK Artists of 2008
Noah Becker: Interview, White Hot Magazine, Vol. 1
Claudia Porchet: Entrückte Figuren in Einer Flüchtigen Welt, Tages Anzeiger
Dr. Ulrike Fuchs: Short Cuts, Art Profile, No. 5
Trevor Guthrie: Interview, White Hot Magazine Online
Dr. Ulrike Fuchs: People in Motion, Palette, No. 4

2007

João Silvério: Insomnia, Filomena Soares, (catalogue), March
Hans-Joachim Müller: Letting it Appear, Galerie von Braunbehrens (catalogue) NYARTS Magazine, January
Art Scene: A Day at the Shore

2006

Douglas Lewis (curator): Space Between, University of the Arts London, Autumn Edition
Lewis H. Lapham: The case for Impeachment, Why We Can No Longer Afford George W. Bush, Harper's US Magazine, March, 2nd print in October
Tages-Anzeiger (Illustrated by A. Denzler), Zueritipp, Ausstellungen, February

2005

Anni Dore: Culture vulture, Cream Magazine, September
Martin Kraft: American Paintings, Gallery Kashya Hildebrand (catalogue)

2004

Philip Meier: Kultur, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, September

2003

Barbara Handke: Tages Anzeiger, February
Martin Kraft: Space and Reality, Galerie Mönchhof, January

2001

Volcker Schunck: Arresting Vision, Galerie Carzaniga + Ueker, Galerie Werner Bommer, (catalogue), August

1996

Steven Loepfe: Abstrakte Bilder, (catalogue), February

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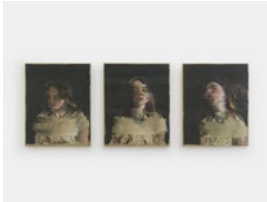
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