

## Albert Oehlen

31 July–28 August 2016  
daily 1–7 pm

Preview:  
Saturday, 30 July 2016, from 4 pm



Albert Oehlen, *Rock*, 2009

We are pleased to invite you to our summer exhibition with **Albert Oehlen**.

Known for his continuous and unconventional questioning of the medium painting – its traditions, means and limits – Albert Oehlen develops new forms of expression and steadily extends his own artistic vocabulary.

The exhibition presents Oehlen's painting *Rock*, created in 2009. The work consists of two canvases which are connected by a third, narrower canvas and thus build a triptych. Abstract brushstrokes and splashes of paint overlay paper cut-outs that were glued onto the canvas. The face of a woman with closed eyes floats within a colour gradient which ranges along all three parts of the work. Across the entire painting one can read the sentence "Help I'm a rock", both a reference to the eponymous song by Frank Zappa's *The Mothers of Invention* as well as a combination of the song titles "Help!" by the Beatles and "I'm a rock" by Simon & Garfunkel. Oehlen's deep interest in music, especially pop music, becomes regularly apparent in his works. The tension between pop music which is not least fed on the connection of sound and image, forms a provocative element that challenges the medium painting in its position as an epitome of high culture. The song, as a product of this genre, becomes the subject of Oehlen's work and is transferred to the spatial conditions of the canvas.

Also, on Saturday, 30 July, the Swedish saxophone player and composer **Mats Gustafsson** will perform a solo concert. Gustafsson, born in 1964 in Umeå, is known as an outstanding representative of Scandinavian Free Jazz who succeeds in combining the different styles of improvised music in a multifaceted way. As a soloist, but especially within his many cooperations with other musicians, he moves along the borders of Jazz, Punk, Rock and New Music.

Furthermore, we are delighted to announce the opening of the **Bibliothek Günther Förg** on Sunday, 31 July. Günther Förg has built several, practically identical libraries in his studios and apartments in Switzerland and Germany. The Stiftung zur Förderung zeitgenössischer Kunst in Weidingen acquired one of these libraries with approximately 3,000 books. The newly constructed building is situated in the old inner part of Weidingen, directly adjacent to the parish church: Church of the Immaculate Conception of Mary and was designed by the Trier office, Axt Architekten. With an impressive ceiling height of 4 meters, the new building is divided in two parts: the exhibition space and the library. The central exhibition space comprises a self-contained volume with three walls displaying three paintings from 1999 by Günther Förg, with day light from a large window and skylight. The lateral panorama window offers beautiful views of the neighbouring church. Moreover, the outer wall of the library provides a view on a Förg wall painting.

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**Albert Oehlen** (\*1954, Krefeld) lives and works in Switzerland. Recent solo presentations of his work took place at New Museum, New York and Kunsthalle Zürich, Zurich (both 2015); Museum Wiesbaden (2014); mumok, Vienna (2013); Kunstmuseum Bonn (2012); Carré d'Art de Nîmes (2011); Musée d' Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris (2009); Whitechapel Gallery, London (2006); MOCA, Miami; Kunsthalle Nürnberg, Nuremberg (both 2005); Musée Cantonal Des Beaux Arts, Lausanne; Domus Artium 2002, Salamanca and Secession, Vienna (all 2004) among others. In 2016, the following exhibitions will be opening *Albert Oehlen: Woods Near Oehle* at Cleveland Museum of Art, (Cleveland, Ohio) *Georg Baselitz und Albert Oehlen* at Kunstverein Reutlingen as well as *Albert Oehlen: Recent Works* at Guggenheim Bilbao.

**Günther Förg** was born 1952 in Füssen and died 2013 in Freiburg. He was a professor at the University of Arts and Design, Karlsruhe and later at the Academy of Fine Arts, Munich. His work has been exhibited in numerous solo shows in international institutions, such as Deichtorhallen, Hamburg (2015); Museum Brandhorst, Munich (2014); Fondation Beyeler, Basel (2009); Langen Foundation, Neuss (2007); Kunstmuseum Basel (2006); Gemeentemuseum, The Hague (2003, 2006); Tel Aviv Museum of Art (2002); Kunsthaus Bregenz (2001); Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia / Palacio de Velázquez, Madrid; Städtisches Museum Abteiberg, Mönchengladbach (both 1998); Touko Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo; Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris (both 1991); Museum Fridericianum, Kassel; Secession, Vienna (both 1990); Newport Harbour Art Museum, Newport Beach (1989) and The Renaissance Society, Chicago (1988).

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