

DANIEL LERGON
28.05.2022 | 16.07.2022

CLAREIRA [CLEARING]

Lehmann + Silva is pleased to present "Clareira [Clearing]", the second solo exhibition by Daniel Lergon (1978, Bonn, Germany), at the gallery.

In Daniel Lergon's painting practice, each particular material used and the interaction of light and surface, as well as questions of color and movement, have always been central.

In the beginning, his work was focused on retroreflective fabrics and, generally speaking, "charged" surfaces. Afterwards, Lergon turned to color, investigating a single pigment, first phthalo green, then alizarin crimson. These individual pigments were each transilluminated by a white or neon yellow canvas. His first show at Lehmann + Silva, "Sob Verde", presented works with phthalo green on a neon yellow canvas. The individual pigment was modulated only in its density and then glowed more or less, letting through light.

The new paintings are, in many ways, a continuation of his investigation and principles while being quite different and introducing new elements. Unlike previous exhibitions, different colors can now be seen side by side but then, again, in all the new works the background plays a major role. This time it does not glow, on the contrary, Lergon deliberately uses a material that contrasts with the neon yellow of before, namely absorbing earth colors, such as sienna, umber or slate. In addition, the background is figuratively "charged". Cut out from the earth, a white shape appears, shining through the upper layers. Over it, a translucent, monochromatic layer is applied, in violet, blue or yellow. As in the earlier works, the upper color consists of only one pigment, which sometimes appears denser others thinner creating a multi-monochrome layer. The top color is often rolled up and peeled off, sometimes through a screen, sometimes with a roller, revealing lower layers. The earth, on the other hand, absorbs and forms with the white and the modulated upper color a system of information that is swallowed or allowed to pass through.

In the middle of the dark forest, only the clearing reveals its colors.