



For immediate release

JanKossen Contemporary 529W 20th Street, Fl.7, New York, 10011

For press inquiries please contact

Estela Vallejo at estela@jankossen.com or admin@jankossen.com

Annual Summer FRESH! 2018 group show

"ORDER AND CHAOS: THE WORLD OF THE ENLIGHTENED"

July 19th - Aug. 11th, 2018

Opening Vernissage Thursday, July 19th, 6-8pm

New York, NY ... The annual summer group show **FRESH!** returns to JanKossen Contemporary, featuring works by 13 artists under the curatorial vision of "*Order and Chaos: the World of the Enlightened*".

Artists have always played a role in voicing how the world is seen; they are critics dissecting the concepts aesthetics, ideals of beauty, rationalism, tolerance and liberty. How do our artists see the world today? And what can we learn from their viewpoints?



Atsuko Chirikjian
Nested II, 2015

Artists are invited to explore and present their rendering of our world; to re-interpret what is considered truth (or not) and the realities around us. A diverse group of international emerging and established artists were selected, who demonstrate a variety of methods, media, use of materials and techniques employed.

Selected artists include **Atsuko Chirikjian** (USA), **Eva Breitfuß** (DE), **Jarek Puczel** (PL), **Julie Rotblatt** (USA), **Matthew Mogle** (USA), **Michael Gatzke** (DE), **Michele Utley-Voigt** (USA), **Ryan Burns** (USA), **Soojin Choi** (USA), **Vanessa Kocking** (USA), **Ahron Weiner** (USA), **Mariela Lechin** (USA) and **Trey Abdella** (USA).

Abstraction has a strong presence in this exhibition. A group of artists **Vanessa Kocking, Atsuko Chirikjian, Eva Breitfuß, Julie Rotblatt, Mariela Lechin** and **Ryan Burns** use various media to create landscapes and explore both spiritual and physical elements of the today's world. Using ink on canvas, **Kocking** creates fluid alternative spaces resembling silent landscapes that emerge from experiences in a personal existential pursuit.



Ryan Burns Burns
*Untitled (Sweet Gum,
est. age 94 years),
2013*

Seeing herself as a medium for the expression of the unknown, **Breitfuß'** delicate acrylic lines mirror her focus to explore, transform and transport energies of time and space. **Burns'** artistic practice is research oriented where he investigate society's relationship with the natural world using proxy indicators of climate change embodied by the growth rings of felled trees. **Rotblatt** works with various media with the aim to explore multiple dimensions

of both the spiritual and physical within the mind-body connection. In a world that constantly attempts to choose between extremes, **Lechin** paintings reflect the idea that contradictions coexist harmoniously as one. Paying homage to cultural heritage, **Chirikjian** works are steeped in tradition with a background working in materials. A canvas is for Chirikjian a three-dimensional construct; building her own canvas through the layering materials such as thread, wire, net, bamboo, twigs, and cheesecloth.

Artists **Michele Utley- Voigt, Matthew Mogle** explore the human condition in relation to personal experiences, emotion, fate and form. **Utley- Voigt's** powerful paintings is a visualization of our complex sense of self, which she translates into a kaleidoscope of complex layered imagery. **Mogle** romanticizes narratives of the past, fused with his cynical and melancholic views of the present to explore the effects of chronic Lyme disease on the artist's body.



Michele Utley-Voigt
American Woman, 2017



Jarek Puczel
The lost way, 2018

Jarek Puczel and **Michael Gatzke** both introduce a strong psychological component in their artwork creating ambiguous moments of dimensional perception.

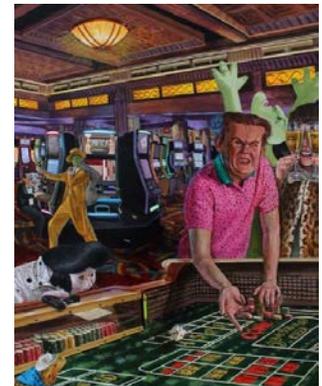
Puczel's painting capture a moment in time, evoking an emotional but calming emotion. Working in the same medium confined to a monochromatic palette, **Gatzke** invites the viewer to participate and contemplate within Gatzke's atmospheric scenes.



Soojin Choi
Do you? 2018

Young emerging artists **Sooji Choi**, **Ahron Weiner** and **Trey Abdella** analyse society current issues. **Weiner** uses newspaper and journalistic media as a medium to criticise our society by opening a window into our collective consciousness.

Conjoining realism and cartoons, **Abdella** creates cohesive scenes where cartoons are real and reality is distorted; offering us both an amusing yet disturbing



Trey Abdulla
Hollywood Casino, 2018

interpretation of what is ailing in our society today. Distorting our sense of perception, **Choi** uses Representational imagery to tease our sense of reality where objects are dismantled, re-organised or dissected. Creating an almost surreal interpretation of objects, **Choi** demonstrates their instability and imperfections.

This summer FRESH! show presents a group of artists who have addressed the challenges of how the world is defined, and presents us a new perception and a redefinition of reality.

The exhibition opens on Thursday, July 19th and will remain on view through August 11th, 2018.