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press release  
EN

# STRUKTUR

Peter Krauskopf

Special Exhibition

13 October 2017 – 21 January 2018

STRUKTUR is the title of the first institutional solo exhibition of Peter Krauskopf in Leipzig. Krauskopf, born in 1966, studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in his birth town Leipzig and later continued as a post-graduate under Arno Rink. After the turn of the millennium, he became famous for his break with the figurative tradition of painting in Leipzig. Among other awards Krauskopf received the Falkenrot Prize 2015. He currently lives and works in Berlin. His new exhibition at the G2 Kunsthalle Leipzig presents a selection of his most recent abstract paintings. Across two rooms offering 400 square metres of exhibition space, 20 paintings by Krauskopf, including large format works, are on view at G2 Kunsthalle.

The term *structure* relates to the properties of a material or fabric. The sense of the word is not limited to the surface of materials, it also implies the construction as well as the plexus of meaning of objects or contents. In this context, the title STRUKTUR refers not only to the painterly textures of Krauskopf's works, but also to the pictorial space and the volumes of paint, the substance itself of his paintings, as well as the method of his work.

Krauskopf's abstract compositions are created through a process of layering and blending paints in various stages of fluidity. The artist stretches out the volumes of paint with a squeegee and then subjects them to a long process of drying, while some areas are processed further. The results are gradients that play with the suggestion of depth and complex layering. Coincidences do play a role – but the control of the artistic process and the resulting dichotomy of repetition and variation remains the constituent aspect of his artistic vocabulary.

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The quality and the visual appeal of Krauskopf's works lies in the duality of physical mixture and repulsion of painterly volume, caused by his technique, occasionally leading up to the impairment or damage of the beauty of a gradient. Working with the surface and the texture of paint, Krauskopf creates spatial structures and vivid poetics of interwoven lines, bars or oval shapes.

Krauskopf's artistic strategy does not aim at perfection. On the contrary, he seems to be more interested in the systematic errors inherent to the algorithm of his production process. He apparently relishes them, when he speaks about the »consistent flaws« of his compositions. Krauskopf calls his approach »automated painting«, a formulation that implies a parallel to mechanical processes or technical programming methods defined by fixed and variable parameters.

And yet Krauskopf's abstract colour compositions are not in any way the result of a static formula. No order can naturally be imposed upon the flow of paint. Therefore, his *applications* are underlying an inevitable and immanent perpetual transgression of the rules. With great concentration the painter nimbly reacts to changing volumes, remaining certain of one central aspect: »I am aware that the sum of all the failures occurring on the canvas will always be surprising in the end.«

Exhibition catalog: Peter Krauskopf: Struktur, with a text by Jörg Heiser, ed. by Anka Ziefer, exhibition cat. G2 Kunsthalle Leipzig, publ. by MMKoehn Berlin/Leipzig 2017, graphic design: Kay Bachmann, photography: Uwe Walter, ISBN 978-3-944903-45-3, 20,- Euro.

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Press Preview: Wednesday, 11 October 2017, 11AM

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## Biographical notes

Peter Krauskopf, born 1966 in Leipzig, studied painting at the Academy of Fine Arts Leipzig from 1989 to 1995, postgraduate of Arno Rink. After the turn of the millennium, he became famous for his break with the figurative tradition of painting in Leipzig. Among other awards Krauskopf received the Falkenrot Prize 2015. He currently lives and works in Berlin. Solo shows include 2016 Galerie Jochen Hempel, Berlin & Walter Storms Galerie, München; 2015 Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin; 2015 Galería Alvaro Alcázar, Madrid; München; 2012 State Art Collections Dresden, Albertinum. Group shows include 2015 Beijing International Art Biennale; 2015 *Gute Kunst? Wollen!*, Auf AEG Nürnberg; 2015 Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice; 2015 Salon Dahlmann Berlin; 2015 G2 Kunsthalle Leipzig; 2014 Kunsthalle im Lipsiusbau, Dresden.

## Publications (selection)

*Peter Krauskopf: Struktur*, with a text by Jörg Heiser, ed. by Anka Ziefer, exh. cat. G2 Kunsthalle Leipzig, Berlin/Leipzig 2017

*Peter Krauskopf: Falkenrot Preis 2015*, ed. by Christoph Tannert, exh. cat. Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin 2015.

*Peter Krauskopf: Landschaft mit abstraktem Gemälde*, ed. by Ulrich Bischoff & Gwendolin Kremer, exh. cat. Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden (Albertinum), Nürnberg 2012.

*Peter Krauskopf: Block*, ed. by Jürgen Krieger, Berlin 2011.

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