

Press release

20.01 – 24.02.2007

Kiki Lamers

Annet Gelink Gallery is proud to present new work by the Dutch artist Kiki Lamers (1964) in her third solo exhibition at the gallery. These new oils reflect a further deepening in Lamers's study of the human face and the individuality hidden behind it. The use of masks in some of the portraits produces an alienating effect but without any excess of emotion: the subdued climate that is characteristic of most of Lamers's works remains in place.

It's infinitely challenging and fascinating to paint a physical presence. I can feel them: lemon, widow or Rabbit, Dogface, Faith or Sad Bunny. Once they're finished, they're there for good, and they'll never go away (Kiki Lamers, January 2007)

Kiki Lamers knows how to approach her subjects in such a way that it seems as if she's crawled under their skin. In her paintings she has an unparalleled knack for conveying the search for what is locked inside the subject's body language and facial expressions. Even the inner state of mind hidden beneath the outer features is expressed in her portraits.

Kiki Lamers has portrayed not only humans but also chimpanzees in her new work. The human qualities and the character of these creatures are revealed in her work in a refined way. Also striking is the similarity of facial expressions and individuality between the persons wearing animal masks and the chimpanzees.

Kiki Lamers masterfully creates palpable presences that you just can't get around. Behind the physical expressions are emotions that rise to the surface and remain fascinating. Kiki Lamers has built up an impressive oeuvre. Her work is included in several important national and international collections and has been part of numerous exhibitions both in the Netherlands and abroad.

The Bakery: Declan Rooney

The Irish multimedia artist Declan Rooney (1977) works with photography, installations, video and performance. During the opening in the Bakery he will be performing *Wannabe Magus*, a performance inspired by music and the surrealist technique of *écriture automatique*. The performance will be videotaped and shown during the exhibition. The video work *Self Portrait, Boy Facing Front* (2005) will also be shown. This work was part of the earlier exhibition *Egon Scheile – Love and Death* presented in the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam in 2005. The video shows the artist with outstretched arms, which he tries to hold in the same position as long as possible.

Declan Rooney is involved in the CCA Kitakyushu Research Program in Japan and studied at the Hochschule für Bildende Künste Braunschweig in Germany, University College Dublin, Academy Minerva in Groningen and the National College of Art and Design, Dublin. His work has been shown in the Fridericianum Museum in Kassel, PAC Milan, P.S. 1 New York and at the 2003 Venice Biennale. In addition to his artistic activities he is presently serving as director of the IPG (Independent Performance Group, founded by Marina Abramovic in 2004), and he works as the coordinator of various art projects. New work by the artist Monali Meher, who is part of the IPG, will be shown at Lumen Travo in Amsterdam until 10 February.

08.02 – 12.02.2007 | Art Rotterdam

Annet Gelink Gallery presents new work of Armando Andrade Tudela, Yael Bartana, Kiki Lamers, David Maljkovic, Muzi Quawson, Robert Suermondt, Barbara Visser.

23.02 – 26.02.2007 | The Armory Show, New York

Annet Gelink Gallery presents work of Ed van der Elsken, Carla Klein, David Maljkovic, Victor Man, Muzi Quawson, Erik Wesselo.

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Annet Gelink Gallery is open Tuesday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. For more information please contact Annelieke van Halen or Floor Willems, 020-3302066 or info@annetgelink.com