

KATZ CONTEMPORARY

PATRICK GRAF

El Tschuggo Forest / El Huebi Ciudad

1 September - 5 November 2017

Opening: Thursday, 31 August 2017

KATZ CONTEMPORARY is delighted to present new works by **Patrick Graf** (*1981 in Zurich, Switzerland where he also lives and works) in his second solo exhibition *El Tschuggo Forest / El Huebi Ciudad*. New works in oil and acrylic as well as the large-formatted woodcut *Insel der Zeiten* ("Islands of Times") are presented opposite objects that originate in Patrick Graf's fictitious world *El Tschuggo Forest* and the city *El Huebi Ciudad*, situated within it. The installation fills the entire gallery space, inviting visitors into this strange and unfamiliar jungle world, acting as explorers of a universe previously unknown to them. They are lured into the wondrous landscape of *El Tschuggo Forest*, including its human and beastly inhabitants who also live in the two-dimensional works, evoking a fantastical world created by the artist.

Patrick Graf's artistic practice is based on blending art and everyday life, fiction and reality. He has been working on the story of the *Ypsilon'sches Zeitalter* ("The Age of Y") centered around the mad Dr. Y. since 1999. Graf is documenting this work in the form of a book, which already comprises more than 4'000 A4-pages of drawings and texts, and is constantly growing. On these pages and the pieces inspired by this work Graf develops an incredible narrative, which leads the viewer into a new, unique and fascinating world, frequently inspiring contemplation.

Such a parallel universe and therefore a brand new chapter of the *Ypsilon'sches Zeitalter* is presented in the current exhibition. The incredibly detailed landscape of *El Tschuggo Forest*, built with lacquered cardboard, fills out the entire gallery space – a vast jungle with the river *El Grande Azulon* winding through its tropical grove. Along the riverbanks we find *El Huebi Ciudad*, a city founded by brave settlers, hidden in the thicket of the jungle. The city's inhabitants now share the tropical habitat with wild animals, corrupt drug dealers, militant tribes and environmental activists. *El Tschuggo Forest* is located on *Kontinentalplatte C* ("Tectonic Plate C") in *Welt b.* ("World b."), which is well known to us. Attentive viewers will notice that in the current exhibition, like in previous installments, Dr. Y. himself also pops up here and there in Patrick Graf's incredibly detailed two-dimensional works.

Stefanie Bissig

CONCERT

Poudre (Franziska Brücker & Simon Borer)

Thursday, 10 October 2017, 7 pm (free entry / collection)

GALLERY WEEKEND & FINISSAGE

Saturday/Sunday, 4 & 5 November 2017, 11 am – 5 pm

For visual material and further information please contact the gallery:
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