

Andreas Fischbacher

1971 Vienna, Austria
Lives and works in Vienna, Austria

- 1994 Master's degree at the University of Applied Arts, Vienna /
Fashion Design
- 1994 – 1996/98 Assistant to Helmut Lang
- 1993 – 2002 Fashion designer / Assistant
- 2002 – 2006 work in various galleries, Mayer Kainer, Lisa Ruyter
- 2003 – 2006 Manager of the Lisa Ruyter Gallery Vienna
- 2003 – 2006 devotes his time to painting and managing the gallery
- from 2006 devotes his time primarily to painting

Selected Exhibitions

2009
"Art Austria" Museumsquartier Vienna
"review" bäckerstrasse4
"Pairs/Water" bäckerstrasse4
Georg Trenker, "Werkschau/Portraits"

2008
Open Studio, "At Work Studies"

2006
Gerhard Bodner, "Champions Taken"
Projektraum Blumen, "Only to Spread Elsewhere", curated by Sara Atwater
Christian Witt-Doerring, "Dichotemies"

Work Description

On the work of Andreas Fischbacher

Using old photographs and applying them to painting has become the focus of Andreas Fischbacher's work. He is motivated by other people's special personal moments captured on film. A private event that begged to be saved becomes a frozen moment, carried into the future. The medium of photography additionally influences that wish to be safeguarded by adding to its own history. The subject goes through a transformation upon development of the film. With the passing of time photographs acquire a life of their own through the patina, the yellowing process, and scratches.

These captured moments show an individual point of view on the things, people, and situations as the photographer experienced them, how he saw the world. Through the process of painting, these moments are subject to another form of subjectivity: the painter's perception adds yet another filter. This subjectivity is not solely applicable to the quality of execution, but during the working process, Fischbacher grasps the emotions of the depicted persons or the atmosphere of situations.

This is how Fischbacher captures people, for example in "Elsa and her daughter," he captures the special moment of a mother with her small daughter, something that wasn't taken for granted in that day and age. Capturing a moment that has passed, never to return. The absence of a narrative creates a space for possible interpretations.

For Fischbacher, "Mountain View" is a painting whose historic reality extends into the present. Mountain landscapes in Austria are postcard motifs that suggest patriotism. The narrative aspect of this piece is that the open window looks out at an alpine trekking pole which obstructs the view behind it.

In "Players," Fischbacher plays with the erotic moment. Two naked men closely sitting next to each other suggest a rather private sensation. Through manipulation of the medium, the subject retains its intimate space.

Arno Plass