

Joncquil - The Narcoleptic Squirrel & other Phenomena

19 September - 23 October 2008
Private View 18 September, 6-9pm



The Narcoleptic Squirrel, 2008
30 x 40 cm, acrylic on linen

KESTER + BLES art gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of new paintings by the Dutch artist Joncquil. This will be KESTER + BLES's inaugural exhibition, and Joncquil's first UK show.

Joncquil's monochrome, loosely-executed paintings, though instantly identifiable, are not easy to categorise. His work combines figurative and abstract images that seem to be in a state of flux, suggesting a momentary arrest of an ongoing process.

Joncquil sets the canvas out flat on the floor, and uses very liquid paint. He allows spontaneous shapes to appear and then builds on them, incorporating accidental marks as they occur. Joncquil chooses to paint environments that are semi-detached from reality. Drawing on historical as well as contemporary subjects, he creates fragmentary paintings that resemble hallucinations, dreams or memories rather than images of everyday life.

Joncquil's elusive yet enigmatic paintings linger in the mind and have a strong, timeless quality. At 35, Joncquil has already established his very own visual vocabulary as he continues to explore the possibilities of paint on canvas, searching for emotion and ambiguity.

Joncquil (1973) lives and works in The Hague. He studied at the Breda Academy of Fine Art and is a visiting lecturer at several art institutes in the Netherlands. Joncquil has been exhibiting his work in the Netherlands since 1999 and his communal art commissions include murals in Breda and The Hague. Joncquil's work can be found in private, public and corporate collections such as Achmea and Akzo Nobel.

KESTER + BLES is a contemporary art gallery in Notting Hill, London. The gallery was founded by Lieke Kester and Eelke Jan Bles, who both come from the Netherlands. KESTER + BLES shows work by emerging and mid-career artists from Northern Europe, particularly those based in the UK and the Netherlands.

For further information please visit our website: www.kesterbles.com or contact Lieke Kester on: lieke@kesterbles.com or +44 (0)7809 516 438.

Visiting address: 53 Pembridge Road, Notting Hill Gate, London W11 3HG, UK
Opening hours: Wed to Sat from 12 to 6pm during exhibitions, or by appointment