

IT COMES IN WAVES

MIQUEL BARCELÓ, GEORG BASELITZ, ROSEMARIE CASTORO, RICHARD DEACON, ELGER ESSER, VALIE EXPORT, ANSELM KIEFER, WOLFGANG LAIB, JASON MARTIN, JUSTIN MATHERLY, SIGMAR POLKE, MARC QUINN, ARNULF RAINER, PAT STEIR, NOT VITAL, LAWRENCE WEINER

PARIS PANTIN

28 Aug 2018 - 29 Sep 2018



Reopening: Tuesday 28 August 2018

Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac is delighted to present *It comes in waves* (23 June – 29 September). The exhibition brings together sixteen artists who explore the wave as a motif, a metaphor and a force. Whether it is through affective landscapes or conceptual and performative practices, the artists capture the moment when both thought and emotion take form. The wave is a recurring motif in the history of art, associated with such temporal notions as repetition and eternal recurrence. The exhibition investigates these associations, as well as more contemporary themes of flux and liquidity – words that resonate today, as our perception of time and space becomes increasingly fluid.

The wave is linked to the birth of the modern. In the second half of the 19th century, artists such as Gustave Courbet and Gustave Le Gray chose to depict it as a subject in itself. The wave became a means to explore texture and movement, while its transitory nature challenged artists to render the instant when a shape emerges. The wave has thus also been a favoured object for the photographic eye, and its episodic nature encouraged artists to think in sequence, searching for different states of matter.

While the works on view differ in context and form, they are all informed by this genealogy. Each of them captures the flow of personal and collective emotions. Ideas of infinity, continuity and rupture are at play. Many artists have returned to certain themes in their practice, again and again.

Memories surge into the pictorial plane. Time is pictured neither as a line, nor as a circle but as a wave.

The exhibition presents a large-scale landscape painting by Anselm Kiefer, never shown outside a museum context, as well as Wolfgang Laib's site-specific installation *Passageway. Inside-Downside* (2011–12), alongside major works by Miquel Barceló, Georg Baselitz, Rosemarie Castoro, Richard Deacon, Elger Esser, VALIE EXPORT, Justin Matherly, Sigmar Polke, Marc Quinn, Arnulf Rainer, Pat Steir, Not Vital and Lawrence Weiner.

Curators: Pierre-Henri Foulon & Oona Doyle