

BORED QUEEN OVERLOOKS HER FIELDS

SOPHIE ULLRICH

16th April | 28th May 2021

Tube Culture Hall is pleased to present the first solo exhibition of Swiss artist Sophie Ullrich curated by Valeria Schafär and Federica Ferrari.

The starting point of the exhibition is the canvas titled *Heinrichs Traume*, created by the artist in 2019, where the detail of the famous painting with the nipple pinch of Henry IV's mistress - attributed to the School of Fontainebleau and now exhibited at the Louvre - is taken up and, with a stroke typical of the artist, completed on the canvas with the stylized outlines of a body on a gray background, the body of the queen, precisely, who was at the time the English king's mistress.

In all of Ullrich's works one finds this humorous narrative that derives from the juxtaposition of the stylized outlines of a character - often reduced to just arms or hands or legs - juxtaposed with the accurate painting of mundane consumer objects or animals against backgrounds that are generally abstract but always chromatically calibrated.

The title of the exhibition is programmatic. The last 14 months have been characterized by quarantine, outdoor walks, digital distraction and a lot of boredom. But this year was particularly productive for the artists: all the new influences like wearing on masks, contact restrictions, the closure of cultural sites and leisure activities had to be mentally and physically processed. Covid-19 has marked a new timeline.

Sophie Ullrich (1990 Geneva, Switzerland) is one of the artists who has gained time thanks to the corona crisis. Exhibition in Hamburg, Luxembourg and Berlin had to be postponed and she was unable to attend her residency in Los Angeles at Danny First The Cabin due to travel restrictions. *Bored Queen Overlooks Her Fields* is the result. The starting point of her first solo exhibition in Italy is her early work *Heinrichs Träume*, which she painted in 2019 as part of her graduation from the Düsseldorf Art Academy (Meisterklasse Eberhard Havekost). The detail of the famous nipple pinch of Henry IV's lover (*Gabrielle d'Estrées et une de ses sœur, approx. 1594*) sticks to the canvas like a collage and merges into Ullrich's typical comic-like characters, who guide us through the exhibition. Her 12 works talk about nature, domestic activities and the humor that we shouldn't lose in these times.

* Sophie Ullrich (1990), Geneva, Switzerland. She lives and works in Düsseldorf. Graduate of the Düsseldorf Art Academy (under the direction of Eberhard Havekost). She had several solo and group shows in Europe. Major exhibitions include: Reiter Galerie Leipzig abIII, Evelyn Drewes Galerie, Hamburg, 2021; der versehentliche Egoist (Einzelausstellung), Nosbaum&Reding Gallery, Luxembourg, 2021; Buddies, REITER Galerie Berlin, 2021; Group exhibition, Nosbaum&Reding Gallery, Brussels, 2020; Genius Loci 8, Setareh, Düsseldorf, 2020.