



Pia Fries, *brassen*, (detail) 2012-2014, oil and silkscreen on wood, 57 x 67 inches, 145 x 170 cm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pia Fries: Paisages Maritimes

September 13 – November 1, 2014

Opening Reception: Saturday, September 13, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Santa Monica, July 2014 – Christopher Grimes Gallery is pleased to present a solo exhibition of new paintings by Pia Fries. In this new body of work Fries incorporates isolated fragments of historical etchings by Stefano della Bella (1610-1664), renowned Italian engraver of the Baroque period. Concentrated fragments of della Bella's stirring etchings of tumultuous seas and skies and capsizing ships serve as the ground upon which Fries applies paint as a viscous mass: firm and fluid, heavy and light. Fries works within the tension of optical vs. physical weight through the interplay of texture, her energetic application of paint and expressive use of color. She integrates the printed and painted parts of the surface while continuing her interest in movement, transitory states and metamorphosis through traces of the hand, the action, and the tools used to facilitate mark making.

Pia Fries (b. 1955 Beromunster, Switzerland) lives and works in Dusseldorf. Fries' work has been included in exhibitions in the Venice Biennale, at National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC; Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, CA; and Staatliche Kunsthalle, Karlsruhe, Germany. Her work is in the collection of Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA; Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY; Kunstmuseum, Bonn, Germany; and Kunsthau Zürich, Switzerland, among others.

For further information and press materials please contact the gallery at 310.587.3373
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