# LIMITS AND DESPERATE -CROSSINGS AND BORDERS

ERIC DECASTRO NATHALIE GRENZHAEUSER FLORIAN HEINKE JOSEPH SCHOEFFMANN CLARE LANGAN BJØRN MELHUS/YVES NETZHAMMER ANKE ROEHRSCHEID

GAIL SCHOENTAG GALLERY 10TH AUGUST - 20TH SEPTEMBER 2011

### **ERIC DECASTRO**

1960 born in Le Creusot, France. 1974-84 Education in History of Painting (Mirei de Castro), Education in Screenprint. 1986-89 Studies of Acrylic Techniques. Since 2004 Education in Photographs.

Exhibitions: 2010: Schloss Mochental, Galerie Ewald Schrade. Wiesbaden Galerie Sylvia Bernhardt, Schwäbisch-Hall Galerie Swiridoff 2009: Atelier Amador, Frankfurt am Main, 2008: Atelier/Galerie Eric Decastro in Langen 2006 First solo Show Atelier Amador Frankfurt am Main Germany,1979-1895 Solo Show in Charolles Burgundy France and in Griesheim Germany.

www.decastro-art.com

### NATHALIE GRENZHAEUSER

Born in 1969 in Stuttgart, Germany. 1991-97 interdisciplinary art studies, class of Hermann Nitsch, Staedelschule, Frankfurt am Main. 1997 Master's degree. 2000 Hessische Kulturstiftung scholarship together with Minka Maslowski. 2001 adjunct lectureship at the Johannes Gutenberg Universität, Mainz. 2005 / 06 residency in Spitsbergen. 2007 residency with adjunct lectureship, Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne, Australia. 2007 Maria Sibylla Merian Award. 2009 residency in Spitsbergen. Lives and works in Frankfurt am Main and Berlin.

Exhibitions: 2011: Trespassing, AtelierFrankfurt, Frankfurt am Main, 2010: New Frankfurt Internationals, MMK Zollamt, Frankfurt am Main, 2010: Der schmale Grat, Kunstverein Eislingen, 2007: The Construction of the Quiet Earth, VCA Students Gallery, Melbourne, 2007: Von Welten & Werken, together with Séverine Hubard, Galerie Anita Beckers, Frankfurt am Main, 2006: Gletscherdämmerung, Ausstellung/Symposium der Eres Stiftung, Munich . 2004: Die Große Arche, Forum 1822, Frankfurt am Main, 2004: Central Station (Harald Falckenberg collection), La Maison Rouge, Paris.

www.grenzhaeuser.com

# **FLORIAN HEINKE**

1981 born in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. 2008 Scholarship Lenikus Collection Vienna. 2009 Master's degree with Prof. Christa Näher, Staedelschule. 2009 Scholarship Frankfurter Künstlerhilfe. 2010 Foundation Publishing House DIRTY LOVERS BOOKS, 2010 Scholarship Kulturamt Frankfurt am Main, 2011 Artists in Residence in Vienna. Lives and works in Frankfurt am Main.

Exhibitions: 2011: Black Diamonds, Volta New York, Galerie Anita Beckers, Frankfurt am Main, 2010: Love kills love, Commerzbank, Raum für Kultur, Frankfurt am Main, 2010: The last curs fight the bricks, Galerie Perpetuel, Frankfurt am Main, 2009: Still my own idol, PSM-Gallery, Berlin, 2008: A fast way downstairs, Sammlung Lenikus, Vienna, 2008: *Pervers durchs Paradies*, Kunstverein Familie Montez, Frankfurt am Main, 2007: *Signing the shit*, Offspace, Miami.

www.florianheinke.com

#### **JOSEF SCHOEFFMANN**

Born 1962 in Salzburg. 1983 Attended Oskar Kokoschka school of painting in Salzburg, Studied classic drawing and painting by Prof. Tübke (Dresden) und Prof. Eisler (Vienna). 1995 Works as a freelance artist in Vienna Gallery Atelier, Vienna. 1996 Artfair in Krems, Austria, 'Gifted Hands' Gallery Valentina, Vienna. 1998 Gallery Altmann, Tulln. 2000 Gallery Schloßgalerie Mondsee Opposites and mutualities, International Art fair Art Miami 2000, International Art fair Art Marbella Mac 21, Artistic shaping of Arte Hotel Meineke in Berlin, Artistic shaping of Hotel Astron in Vienna (former Austria Federal Printers). 2001 Orlando Museum of Arts, Cooperation with Sothebys, named and listed in *Mayer's*, Gallery Mouratti, Vienna. 2004 Contemporary Art Show Karlsplatz, Vienna, Gallery TGK, Lower Austria. 2005 Studio 20, Tulln Phenomenon Schiele, Gallery Art 21 Tulln Landscapes of the Tullnerfeld, International Art fair Shanghai. 2006 Reverse Mozart, an artistic intervention on the main station Salzburg. In the mediums of film, music and painting. 2010 Jesus lives Exhibition during the passion plays in Oberammerau, Germany.

www.josefschoeffmann.com

## **CLARE LANGAN**

Born in Dublin in 1967. Clare Langan studied Fine Art at the National College of Art and Design, Dublin and with a Fulbright Scholarship, completed a film workshop at New York University in 1992. Her work was exhibited in the Singapore Biennial, the Lyon Biennale, the Liverpool Biennial and in 2002 she represented Ireland in the 25th Bienal de Sao Paulo, Brazil. Her films were shown internationally at numerous venues like the MOMA New York or The Metropolitan Museum of Photography in Tokyo, among others, and are in a number of international public and private collections including The Irish Museum of Modern Art, the Tony Podesta Private Collection, Washington, and the Hugo and Carla Brown Collection, UK.

www.clarelangan.com

Gail Schoentag Gallery 112 Hampton Street Sag Harbor, NY 11963, USA www.gailschoentag-gallery.com

in cooperation with Anita Beckers and Ludwig Seyfarth

Graphic design Kurz Gestaltung, Berlin

# **BJØRN MELHUS**

1966 born in Kirchheim/Teck, Germany. Studied Film and Video at the Braunschweig School of Arts. Prize of the Sprengel Museum, Hannover, 2001. Since 2003 he is professor for Video at the Kunsthochschule, Kassel. Currently living and working in Berlin.

Exhibitions: 2011: Live Action Hero Haus am Waldsee, Berlin, 2009: Still Men out there, Amerikan Hastanesi, Istanbul, 2009: Mars Recovery, Galerie Andreas Grimm, Munich, 2008: Captain/ Deadly Storms, Denver Art Museum, 2005: Selected Works, Kyoto Art Center, 2005: Shows Auto Center Drive, CGAC, Santiago de Compostela, 2004: Galerie Bob van Orsouw, Zurich, 2003: *Still men out there*, Galerie Anita Beckers, Frankfurt am Main, 2002: Early Video Works, Goethe Institute, New York.

www.melhus.de

# **YVES NETZHAMMER**

Born 1970 in Schaffhausen, Switzerland, From 1987 to 1990 he studied architecture at Schaffhausen, then moved to Zurich to complete his training in design and the visual arts. After exhibiting his works in solo shows in important venues like Kunsthalle Bremen, San Francisco MoMA, Kunst-Werke Berlin and winning a number of awards, Netzhammer represented Switzerland at its national pavilion in the Giardini at the Venice Biennale and created a big installation for the Karlskirche, Kassel during the Documenta in 2007 His work is in different public collections such as Kunstmuseum Bern, Museum of Old and New Art (Mona) Hobard, West Collection Pennsylvania and the CB Collection Tokyo. In 2010 he had a solo exhibition in the Kunstmuseum Bern / CH. He lives and works in Zurich.

www.netzhammer.com

# **ANKE ROEHRSCHEID**

1965 born in in Erfurt, Germany. 1992-1998 Staatliche Hochschule für Bildende Künste, Staedelschule, Frankfurt am Main, with Prof. Hermann Nitsch. 1998 Masters degree. 2005 Rudi-Seitz-Price. Lives and works in Frankfurt am Main.

Exhibitions: 2009: Werkschau, Deutscher Wetterdienst, Offenbach am Main, 2009: Kunstverein Familie Montez, Frankfurt am Main, 2009: transfer, Galerie Martina Detterer, Frankfurt am Main, 2008: Kunstverein Leverkusen, 2005: Ivory Black, Karmeliterkloster, Frankfurt am Main, 2002: Galerie Werno Strobel, Mannheim, 2001: Contemporary Art Studio, Budapest.

www.ankeroehrscheid.de



**ERIC DECASTRO** is a contemporary painter who commandeers the broad terrain of abstract art that spanned almost fifty years, and explores it in a completely new way. He concentrates mainly on panel painting, but is, in fact, an experimenter who also pursues new technical developments with enthusiasm.

With the superimposition of different layers of acrylic paint that, despite their dense structures, form a clean and precise flow, even with the 'wash-out' technique – the repeated application and washing out of individual parts – Eric Decastro not least assembles experiences which are based on the experience of working at a monitor.

**Left** *Subcortical work level* 2, 2011 Acrylic on canvas, 250 x 190 cm

**Right** *Les Couleurs de la vie Nr. 304*, 2010 Acrylic on canvas, 18 x 24 cm







NATHALIE GRENZHAEUSER uses digital manipulation to edit and retouch various photographs she has taken at historic locations along the French Atlantic coast, in the wintry, barren Spitsbergen region or the vast coast of Australia. She never abandons the fragile balance she creates between the documental, the image indebted to the place it portrays and the autonomous nature of the aesthetic orchestration. Her pictures, on the one hand, show a real location, while on the other hand they also reveal the pictorial traditions and codes that always framed motifs which had never or rarely been previously photographed.

Left Omaha Beach, 2003 Lambda print, diasec 70 x 113 cm, Edition: 5 + 2

Museum, Nr. 2/5 Cloud, Nr. 3/5

Right Omaha Beach, 2002 Lambda print, diasec 50 x 75 cm, Edition: 3 + 1 *Trees*, Nr. 27/33, Edition: 33 + 3 Playground, Nr. 2/3













Combining text and image, **FLORIAN HEINKE**'s mostly oversized paintings in black acrylic capture themes of humanity such as love, passion and death. His invented style 'Black Pop' (2007–2011) combines bold statements with iconic images from the media and symbols of his own personal youth culture. The artist, whose body is also covered with tattooed lettering, is sometimes the protagonist of his artworks, which he understands as a logo, a brand and a signature.

**Left, clockwise from top left** *Riots.The Gardener*, 2011 Acrylic on nettle, 180 x 140 cm

*Riots. Born to love and revolt. London*, 2011 Acrylic on canvas, 100 x 80 cm

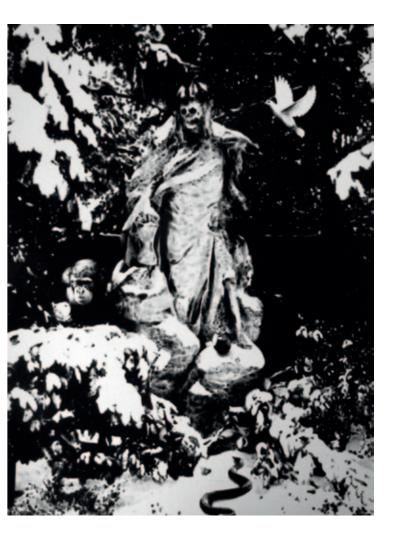
*Riots. Love and Loss. The Apes and the Titan.*, 2011 Acrylic on canvas, 180 x 130 cm

Right, top to bottom

*Riots. The morning we won't see*, 2011 Acrylic on canvas, 180 x 130 cm

*Riots. Born to love and revolt. Frankfurt*, 2011 Acrylic on canvas, 100 x 80 cm





Artist's statement by **JOSEF SCHOEFFMANN**: 'Our physical and intellectual being is actually undergoing a very strong change, which experiences a clarifying cleansing not only in global economy. This question of sense is asked in art and culture too, which shows a high tendency to greater spirituality and consciousness.'

**Below** *Impact*, 2002 Mixed media on canvas, 90 x 110 cm



In spite of the beauty of **CLARE LANGAN**'s images, a feeling of chaos and panic permeates her photographs and films; nature seems to be unstoppable in reclaiming its space and burying human civilization beneath it.

*The Wilderness, Part 1* surveys a landscape of abandonment, darkened by uncertain catastrophe. A requiem for a vanishing planet, *The Wilderness, Part 1* is an examination of an extinct world that strangely resembles our own. Shot in an experimental manner in HD video and with the use of hand-made filters, the images of the Irish landscape echo graphite drawings. Movement in the film is subtle and minimal with the drama set by Jürgen Simpson's music composition.

**Below** *The Wilderness, Part 1*, 2010 HD Video, 6:00 min, Edition: 5





# *The Reversed Armoury* is a video work jointly produced by **BJØRN MELHUS AND YVES NETZHAMMER**.

The starting point of this collaboration has been the image of blood as a transmutable, both physical and mental 'material' which is embedded in its restless, viral nature, in identities. Based on these factors, Netzhammer generated a video of his distinctive images, for which Melhus developed the sound.

For his short video work, *Happy Rebirth*, Melhus 'borrowed' Marilyn Monroe's voice singing a birthday song for John F. Kennedy.

**Left** Die umgekehrte Rüstung/The Reversed Armory, 2002 DVD, 23 min. 30 sec, Loop Edition: 5 + 2, Nr. 4

**Right** *Happy Rebirth*, 2004 Video on DVD, PAL 01:30 min Unlimited Edition









On ANKE ROEHRSCHEID's work Ursula Harter writes: 'Organic order is the prevailing force in her works: hairy, labyrinthine, rampant as a jungle. The wonderful forms in which nature clads itself fire Anke Röhrscheid's enthusiasm and fantasy (...) The observer moves in the pictures like a boy scout who has left the beaten track or a diver on the seabed, searching for strange, hidden treasure, discovering what is lurking beneath the surface. It is as though Röhrscheid had made them using a magnifying glass. Individual beings living inside blend with the background. As though under the cloak of invisibility, they appear to merge with the color surrounding them, to lie in wait or doze off in the chiaroscuro.'

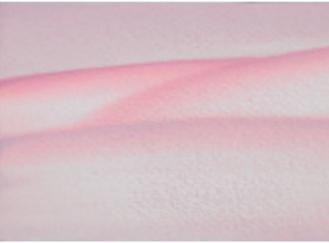
Left, clockwise from top left Untitled, 2006

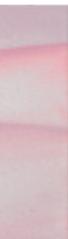
Watercolor on laid paper, 188 x 127 cm

Untitled, 2010 Watercolor on laid paper, 20 x 30 cm

Untitled, 2010 Watercolor on laid paper, 70 x 100 cm

**Below** Untitled, 2010 Watercolor on laid paper, 9 x 15 cm





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