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PRESS RELEASE

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Berlin, 6 March 2017

Christine Streuli. Fred Thieler Prize for Painting 2017 18.03–09.10.2017

Press conference 17.03.2017, 11 am; award ceremony and opening 17.03.2017, 7 pm



Christine Streuli, Anything but the world_001, 2002 © Christine Streuli, photo: Jens Ziehe, Berlin

Christine Streuli will receive the Fred Thieler Prize for Painting in 2017. The award pays tribute to her calculated yet stridently overstated application of painterly techniques. For the presentation at the Berlinische Galerie (18.03–09.10.2017) she brings together works from her new series *warpaintings* with previously unexhibited early collage.

The artist experiments with the radiant power of colours, patterns and marks. Fragments of gestural brushwork combine with expansive ornamental structures and quotations from the aesthetics of advertising or from Pop Art, resulting in new and surprising pictorial enactments. It is not unusual for her pieces to burst the classical bounds of composition, spilling out from the frame and spreading into the room.

In her exhibition, Christine Streuli shows works from her new series *warpaintings*. One central theme in this sequence begun in 2016 is an artistic response to military camouflage. These big canvases are joined for the presentation by early collage and overpainted photographs from the time she spent in New York and Cairo in 2002 and 2003. They are based on pictures from newspaper articles about US combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. Christine Streuli uses signal colours to manipulate them and re-interpret the content.

Born in Switzerland in 1975, the Berlin-based artist studied at the Hochschule für Gestaltung und Kunst in Zurich and with Bernd Koberling at the University of the Arts in Berlin. In 2007 she was included in the Swiss Pavilion at the Venice Biennale. In 2015 she returned to Berlin's University of the Arts as a guest professor.

Fred Thieler Prize for Painting

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The Prize, which comes with a purse of \notin 10,000, has been awarded since 1992 – annually at first and biennially since 2007 – to mark the birthday of Fred Thieler (1916–1999) on 17 March. The old master of *art informel* dedicated the award to "outstanding painters whose



artistic development is not yet complete and who have earned public recognition". In this spirit, the jury distinguishes artists whose life and work are centred in Germany but whose œuvre enjoys an international reputation independently of the current market for contemporary art. The award entails a presentation of works at the Berlinische Galerie (from 18 March 2017) and publication of the homage in a commemorative volume.

Jury members: Valérie Favre (artist), Katharina Grosse (artist), Udo Kittelmann (Director, Nationalgalerie Berlin), Thomas Köhler (Director, Berlinische Galerie) and Gerwald Rockenschaub (artist)

Prize-winners from 1992 to 2015: Eugen Schönebeck, Peter Bömmels, Lothar Böhme, Andreas Brandt, Reinhardt Pods, Jan Kotík, K. H. Hödicke, Walter Libuda, A. K. Dolven, Peter Herrmann, Marwan, Katharine Grosse, Cornelia Schleime, Günter Umberg, Bernd Koberling, Gerwald Rockenschaub, Pia Fries, Bernard Frize, Sergej Jensen, Bernhard Martin

ACCREDITATION Please return by 13.03.2017 to presse@berlinischegalerie.de or FAX: (030) 789 02 730

I would like accreditation for:

the press conference followed by a tour of the exhibition	
"Christine Streuli. Fred Thieler Prize for Painting 2017" on Friday, 17.03 at 11 am	
in the Berlinische Galerie.	

- the opening of the exhibition "Christine Streuli. Fred Thieler Prize for Painting 2017" on Friday, 17.03.2017 at 7 pm in the Berlinische Galerie.
- □ Unfortunately I cannot attend.
- □ Please send me more information.

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