

Jan van der Ploeg + Riette Wanders
Two People in a Room

2 June – 1 September 2018

Two People in a Room, an exhibition by Jan van der Ploeg and Riette Wanders, will open at EQ on Saturday 2 June, 2018, from 2-5pm.

Jan van der Ploeg is curator and founder of PS projectspace in Amsterdam. Both PS and EQ are artist-run galleries with a concern for developing international dialogue. This exhibition at EQ, by Jan van der Ploeg and Riette Wanders, will be a further opportunity to extend PS and EQ's shared approach to exhibiting contemporary artworks, where the presenting of works and considering of ideas becomes a moment for examining existing understandings and a testing-ground; suggesting and offering new possibilities.

While the strongly contrasting visions of Van der Ploeg and Wanders in many ways occupy opposite ends of the scale of possibilities of the graphic, their works equally stress a relationship for the observer with an overall sense; the atmosphere the works create. Their works investigate our psychological or physiological responses to our environments and how the artists' interventions may shape our experience.

Van der Ploeg's work is expansive: in some ways global, through exhibiting his work around the world in 100's of group and solo exhibitions, as well as in public and private commissions. It is also immersive, in scale and nature: often architectural, or comprised of visually hypnotic, Op-art patterns. While his 'utopian universe of colours and contrasts' connects with the utopian ambitions of the De Stijl movement of the early 20th Century, and their concern with the merging of art into life, the more dynamic compositions and pop colours of Van der Ploeg's works reflect a positivity and ease with our contemporary world: rather than dictated by the austere and mathematical, Van der Ploeg's wall-paintings are born out of his relationship with a space, his observations of others' 'individual and intimate experience of a "space"', and thus more a consideration of our human nature.

Riette Wanders series' or groups of drawings, or arrangements of objects and drawings, also tend towards creating environments. Details of materials, composition and mark-making take precedence over figurative or expressive content, shifting focus away from the specifics of what the works depict. Wanders' imagery, emphasising the personal and turbulent, acts to promote a general air of introspection which is bound together with the materials used: the heaviness of charcoal, inks and blankets articulate a weight felt in the complexities of human relationships and a sense of possible imperfection at the heart of things, in order to invite our more personal interpretation and relationship with marks and formal elements.

Two People in a Room will be open to the public on Saturday 2 June only, from 2-5pm. Thereafter, to 1 September, it will be open by appointment only.

For more information or images please contact Geoff Lucas or Eilidh Lucas at:

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