

OLAF BREUNING

Paris Photo 2019, Grand Palais, Paris

7th – 10th November 2019

On the occasion of **Paris Photo 2019** Metronom presents the new series of work by **Olaf Breuning**. Olaf Breuning is a Swiss artist based in New York. In his research he is often focused on blurring the line between the categories of identity, self-knowledge and perception.

His humor, always balanced with poignant seriousness, sketches out the relationship between art and kitsch, reality and illusion, authenticity and artificiality. Looking at one of his works, such as *The Bosh Fridge* (2019), it is clear how the artist's strong irony pops up between the history of art and the icons of the Western consumerist society.

Black Hole in my Garden (2019) is another example on the playful creation of Breuning's art. This picture takes inspiration from the first image ever captured of a black hole by astronomers, at the heart of the Messier 87 galaxy. The news had worldwide echo but within a very short time was swallowed by the massive production of daily news. The artist therefore decided to recreate that shot in his own garden in the attempt to point out the trivialization of our mass media.

On the occasion of Paris Photo 2019 Metronom showcases for the first time Breuning's new body of work: *Faces*. The series counts two grids containing the shots published by the artist himself on his Instagram account: the daily routine of cooking and eating food becomes an occasion to create new visual contents. The large-scale pictures and the small prints become humorous observations of the madness that we call reality.

Olaf Breuning (born in Switzerland, 1970) is a visual artist based in New York. He was the subject of a major retrospective at the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf in 2016. Additionally, he has had one-person exhibitions at Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2011); Kunsthall Stavanger, Norway (2015); the Paul Klee Museum, Bern (2013); Kunstverein Freiburg, Germany (2000). He participated in the 2008 Whitney Biennial and has been featured in group exhibitions at the Whitechapel Gallery, London (2016); KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin (2015); Haus der Kunst, Munich (2014); Pompidou Center, Paris (2009); Museum of Modern Art, New York (2008); the Mori Art Museum, Tokyo (2007); Jeu de Paume, Paris (2005); Kunsthalle Zurich (2003) and Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (2000).

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