

2. RUM

Lines of Flight

Ahmad Siyar Qasimi

Opening: Friday 12 August 2016, 5-8pm

Duration: 13 August – 10 September 2016

Ahmad Siyar Qasimi's paintings deals with pictures belonging to a world radically transformed by digital and virtual technologies. A world saturated with images from the mass media, virtual battlefields from computer games, the Internet, movies, television, press photos etc. Somehow, these images exist on the same level; for example, it may be difficult to distinguish one picture from a computer game and one picture from terroristic propaganda. But the paintings do not portray a world in which nothing is real and everything is simulated. Rather, they try to capture an endlessly complex and constantly transforming network of realities and fictions. Of truths and imaginations. The paintings attempt to be placed in between the real and the fictive to describe and reveal these instable connections.

Leaning on modern masters like Bonnard and Balthus, Qasimi manages to make the oil painting relevant in this new perception of the world. As the canvas and paint is an important reality to the work, without exclusively being the only true and pure being of the painting.

To understand the paintings, it is not a necessity to know autobiographical nature behind them. They express the assertions of the present human conditions, rather than personal experiences. Ones soul and body are constantly scanned and transformed, and thereby also depicted, mapped, controlled and manipulated. Our existence is transformed into grids of governable data. Images in our society are exploited to control reality and to hide their traumatic dimensions. It is this hidden traumatic reality Qasimi's paintings circle around, because just painting with its fictive element can track down the trauma.

Ahmad Siyar Qasimi (DK / AFG) born in 1986 in Kabul, lives in Copenhagen. 2008-14: MA degree from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Copenhagen. Exhibitions: *Afgang14*, Charlottenborg, Copenhagen, 2014. *Snow Blind*, Bks Garage, Copenhagen, 2010. *Paint Space VII*, the Round Tower, Copenhagen, 2009. *Fig.*, Portal, Greve, Denmark, 2008.