

# Fever

## Mie Mørkeberg

**Opening: Friday 12.1. 2018 5-7 pm**

Duration: 12.1. – 10.2. 2018

In the exhibition *Fever* humans, who until now have been physically absent in Mie Mørkeberg's paintings, play a central role. Torn from time and space different women figures have inhabited the works. Contrary to the previous works by Mørkeberg characterized by traces of human presence, there is a here and now in the new works presented.

The narrative has been replaced by atmospheres. In several of the paintings, a sense of something claustrophobic and compressed is emphasized by underwater motives. The title of the exhibition refers to a condition. *Fever* can be perceived as an illness but also as a situation loaded with a poetic potential. Intense dreams and illusions can appear ecstatically, where the boundaries between the conscious and unconscious are blurred. The fever condition can be linked to the artistic practice of creation as well as to the sense of being in the middle of a boxing match or under water.

While the technical constructions of space and perspective often have been in focus, Mørkeberg is now particularly interested in unfolding material. Cut and glued-on pieces of canvas layered in different thicknesses break up the surfaces of the paintings and create uneven texture. The application of both oil and acrylics in alternately dense and almost transparent dissolved brush strokes creates a shifting heaviness and lightness. The pieces of canvas lie under the paint as a thickened skin and the works devote themselves to a completely new interest of material.

*Fever* implicates a turn in Mørkeberg's practice engaging herself in the paintings more than ever. The women figuring in the works lead the thoughts to Mørkeberg, as the boxing match can be perceived as a personal fight, played out by the artist against her own position as a painter. The human body has never been this present and the language arising in the works has never been so clear and insistent as now.

**Mie Mørkeberg (1980)** graduated from The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in 2006. She has exhibited her works at Brandts, Odense, Trapholt, Kolding and Den Frie, Copenhagen among others. She has done commissioned work for SØIK, 2017, The UN Building, 2015 and The Danish Competition and Consumer Authority, 2015. In 2015 she received the 3 year work grant from The Danish Arts Foundation.