

# GOWEN CONTEMPORARY

GENEVA, Switzerland

**Radek Szlaga**

**'Core Lexicon'**

8 Sept - 8 Oct , 2016



*The Horror The Horror*, 2015, oil on canvas, diptych, 70 x 60 cm each

Szlaga's grotesque universe is a world without boundaries between aesthetic and historical borders. Modernism, rock music, structuralism, colonialism... everything coexist in the effort of creating narrations. Szlaga developed a hyper-linked and under-referenced language that draws on the one hand on the artist's personal fragmentary experience of life, on the other hand to the history of a new generation to which he belongs, emerged from the ruins of old separations and identities, and finally to the destructive visual language of world-wide digital technology.

Szlaga's approach touches the status of the image and the notion of reproduction and reappropriation, whether that is another painting, a found image from the internet, a movie still or a text.

Gowen Contemporary is thrilled to present the first solo show by Szlaga in Switzerland. The exhibition retraces Szlaga's process of artistic creation through a selection of recent works tackling to some of his main themes.

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Radek Szlaga was born in 1979 in Gliwice, Poland. He lives and works in Warsaw, PL, and Detroit, US. He studied at the Faculty of Painting, Academy of Fine Arts in Poznań and obtained a PhD in Painting, University of Art, Poznań. **Solo exhibitions** include: Low-Res, Jerusalem, Israel (upcoming) ; Polish Institute, Düsseldorf, Germany (upcoming) ; Core Lexicon, BWA Zielona Góra, Poland (upcoming); Puritan, Pioneer Works, New York, USA (2015); All the Brutes, Leto Gallery, Warsaw, Poland (2015); All the Brutes, Harlan Levey Projects, Brussels, Belgium (2015); The Heart, Laure Roynette Gallery, Paris, France (2015); Milenium, Czytelnia Sztuki, Gliwice, Poland (2014); Limited Dictionary, Trinosophes, Detroit, USA (2013); Freedom Club, Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw, Poland (2012); Freedom Club-Trailer, Galeria Foksal, Warsaw, Poland (2011); Dreams / Icons, Galeria Arsenal, Białystok, Poland (2011); The End, Alexander Ochs Gallery, Berlin, Germany (2010); The Way, Leto Gallery, Warsaw, Poland (2010); Fake Fauna, Galeria Miejska Arsenal, Poznan, Poland (2010); Iconoclasm, White Space, Beijing, China (2010). **Group exhibitions** include: National Museum in Poznan, Poland (upcoming) ; Center for Contemporary Art, Warsaw, Poland (upcoming) ; The Place, Foksal Gallery, Warsaw, Poland (2016); Money to Burn, Zachęta - National Gallery of Art., Warsaw, Poland (2016); Cannibalism? On Appropriation in Art, Zachęta-National Gallery of Art, Warsaw, Poland (2015); State of Life. Contemporary Polish Art within the Global Circumstance, National Art Museum of China, Beijing, China (2015); British British Polish, Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw, Poland (2013); A Few Practical Ways To Prolong One's Life, Zachęta-National Gallery of Art, Warsaw, Poland (2013); False Recognition, 14th Vilnius Painting Triennial; False Recognition, Contemporary Art Centre, Vilnius, Lithuania (2010). Szlaga was the recipient of numerous Polish and international prizes and awards. Since 2007 he has been a member of the artistic group PENERSTWO.

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