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Thilo Heinzmann “Would You Take the Ball From a Little Baby” at Bortolami Gallery, New York

by mousse

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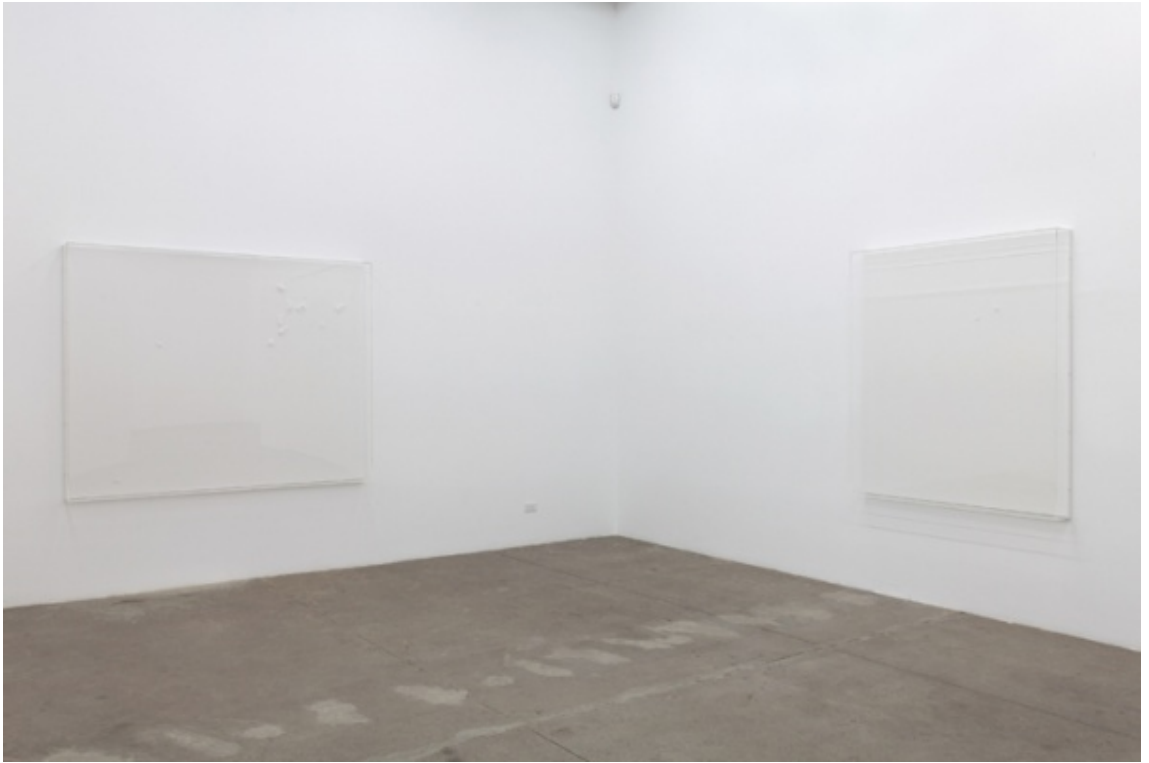


Bortolami Gallery presents the second solo show by Thilo Heinzmann at the gallery, on view through August 2011. A number of works on display situate pigment powder clearly in the field of perception. Not to render the artist's 'material' visible or to expose painting's internal working principles but to generate a genuine painterly impression. The transitions between the delicate and the dense areas of colored dusting amount to transitions between lighter and darker blues, between lower and higher intensities of color.

In the Western tradition of art this interest in color's capacity for perceptual and sensory impression is inherently tied to painterly techniques. Heinzmann's works pick up this historical thread in a non-representational way. Yet, color does not enter the space of perception as a purely optical value either – the pigment as material dust is far too prominent for such a visual dissolve. Instead, color receives a slight tactile roughening.

Heinzmann generates the unfolding of color partly through movements of distribution performed by hand and various instruments, but also through the contingent use of subtle streams of air. This treatment of color constitutes his proposal for what could become of the painterly concept that used to be known as 'gesture'. Here it is articulated under the double terms of restriction and expanse: Heinzmann has limited the application of pigment to one single movement per canvas, whose scale he has in turn enlarged considerably. The result is an exercise in an economy of form where the vastness of the picture plane becomes the arena for the impact of an isolated color spray.

at Bortolami Gallery, New York through August, 2011

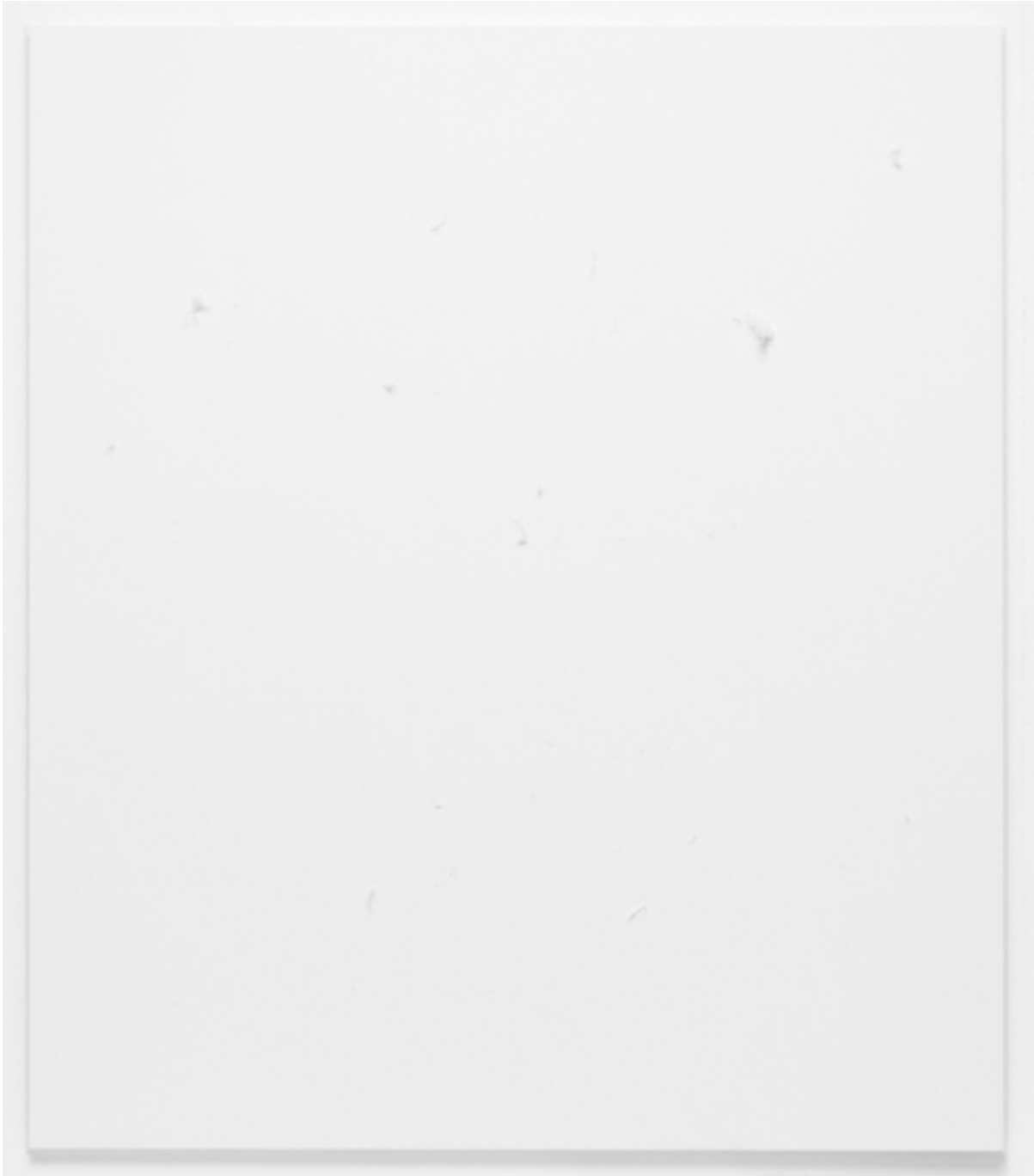
















Images Courtesy of Bortolami Gallery, New York

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