



PRESS RELEASE

Apostolos Karakatsanis

"flat drop fall flat"

11 October - 21 December 2019

On **Friday 11 October 2019** the **DL Gallery** presents the solo exhibition **"flat drop fall flat"** of **Apostolos Karakatsanis**.

Art historian Costas Ioannidis, assistant professor at the AFSA, notes: *"The spaces created by Apostolos Karakatsanis, the soft folds of the third dimension which come from this well thought-out process are accessible by the gaze more than the body. Yet his sfumato strangely combines with a mechanical sense exuded by these works, so that they cannot fit neatly into Clement Greenberg's modernist theory of colour field painting. A contributing factor is that despite the painter's apparent obsession with demonstrating his full control over the painterly process, from the initial preparation to the final brush strikes, in some works he appears willing to include the concept of serendipity in his subjects. These are the works which produce optical oscillations and thus function like op art, which Greenberg never took seriously—just as op art never took Greenberg seriously. It was too playful for him to accept it as high art, too natural (based on optical phenomena) to assume a Kantian self-critical role. Ultimately, however, these works have little to do with op art as well. The lines here lack the mechanical character of op art, being quite gestural and not perfect enough to stimulate the eye. It is the reflective practice that emerges here, belying once again our expectations and defying any official classifications and interpretations. The painting of Apostolos Karakatsanis interests me because it demonstrates how the artistic practice can ultimately transcend any limits imposed by art theory and art criticism; it can do "either" or "both". This is a key realisation, especially in our time. In-depth understanding cannot rely on crude dilemmas; it always rests on the subtle gradations"* .

Apostolos Karakatsanis explains: *" My work explores issues of image construction through visual reinterpretations of the theoretical principles of modernist art as they were posed in the writings of critics who examined it. The concept of the colour field, the*



relationship between musical frequencies and visual art or the debate around the concept of the minimal object as it emerged after the mid-1960s are the fields of research for my painting. Part of this is my attempt to convey experientially the diffusion of light through the vague boundaries of colour fields, as well as my research into the effect of parallel lines and their densification on visual perception. I use optical tricks on the perception of volume and depth with the aim of triggering open readings of the image, by moving back and forth between the real and the imaginary, the specific and the abstract, the concrete and the deconstructed, and by juxtaposing a brash, dazzling light " .

Opening: Friday 11 October 2019 at 20:00

Duration: 11 October - 21 December 2019

Operating hours: Thursday - Friday 11:30 - 19:30
Saturday 12:00 - 16:00

Admission to the exhibition is free.

Communication sponsors:

