

EDWARD CELLA ART & ARCHITECTURE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Bettina Weiß: *Cosme*

September 24 – October 1, 2022

Edward Cella Art+Architecture @
Himalaya Club
1109 N. La Brea Ave.
Inglewood, CA 90302

Bettina Weiß
Etern #1, 2021
Signed, titled and dated on verso.
Oil and acrylic on panel
80 x 80 cm

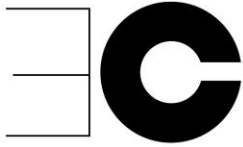
Los Angeles Edward Cella Gallery proudly presents new paintings of German artist Bettina Weiß in her debut exhibition with the gallery, entitled: *Cosme*. Weiß considers her abstractions depictions of nature through geometric forms as they occur in micro and macrocosm. Lush in color, texture, and visual subtleties, her hard-edge paintings offer an exciting interplay of forms and colors created on wood panel surfaces. Alternatively lyrical and muscular the works on view offer the most cohesive understanding of the Berlin, Germany based artist's current practice in the United States to date.

Bettina Weiß: Cosme is organized by the Edward Cella Gallery and presented at the Los Angeles based *Himalaya Club* and is the first of a series of solo exhibitions entitled *Berliner Fokus* heralding emerging artists living and working in Berlin, Germany.

Boldly geometric, Weiß's paintings seek to amplify the language of abstraction. Utilizing both rectangular and circular panels and canvases, her affinity for prismatic shapes, circles and segments fuse with the high-keyed harmonic colors creating emblematic image patterns and fields. Suggesting Mandalas or other sacred geometric forms, the paintings resonate with rhythms and syncopations. Most evident in her ongoing series of small format paintings on panel entitled, *Portraits of a Secret Landscape*, Weiß generates visual possibilities for how abstraction might attempt to grasp the energy and complexity of the natural world – its magnitude and mysteries beyond language, but not recognition – in forms that are fluid, intuitive, or even magical.

Working unconventionally, Weiß combines both- oil paint and acrylics- in distinct stratum atop wood panels. Unlocked by the investigatory gaze of the viewer, her colorful transparent paints sit next to opaque ones, metallic pigments beside neon hues, and flat layers adjacent to thick areas reworked with pallet knives and tools to create haptic, cross-hatched or other textures. Discovering innumerable nuances of a single color, even on the tiniest surfaces, the artist creates paintings with a captivating visual experience.

“As a painter I am interested in the inner geometry of nature, which is reflected in all processes in the micro and macrocosm, processes that represent the entire universe, the abstraction of forces and movements of nature. I paint shapes with vivid surfaces, which allow the painting to vibrate and thus open the pictorial space,” Weiß states. She goes on to state, “Patterns have always fascinated me as a kind of order system. I perceive colors very strongly. With compositions that resonate with me, I revise the paintings in many layers until I find forms that are dynamic and calm at the same time. Each painting is a self-contained system of a non-representational composition. I want to “load” the painting with a kind of energy through the manufacturing process, the composition, and the choice of color.”



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The exhibition, *Bettina Weiß: Cosme* is the first in a series of three solo exhibitions entitled *Berliner Fokus*. The series is a new element in the Edward Cella Gallery program and introduces notable emerging artists living and working in Berlin, Germany through a collaboration with the Los Angeles based project *Himalaya Club*. Intended as an annual series of exhibitions that will take place in the Fall, *Berliner Fokus* seeks to address overtime the narratives that bind, differentiate, and distinguish the art communities of Los Angeles and Berlin; and build on the longer established cultural exchanges of these two sister cities.

ABOUT BETTINA WEIß

Bettina Weiß (born 1970, Flensburg, North Germany) studied fine art 1996 –1999 at Art University Kassel with painter Rob Scholte and 1999– 2003 at University of the Arts Berlin with painter and sculptor Leiko Ikemura. She received her *Meisterschüler* degree in 2004. Since then she has had a number of national and international exhibitions of her work. For 11 years she has been a member of SCOTTY, an artist-run-space and non-profit organization in the Kreuzberg neighborhood of Berlin. Recently she was co-organizer of the Berlin based exhibition series “5 x 5” presented in collaboration with the U.S. based collective Tiger Strikes Asteroid and curated together with Daniel Wiesenfeld the online exhibition *Suturo – Artists and Poem – Berlin 2021*.

Recent solo exhibitions include the public installation *Unter der Sonne*, organized by A Trans, Berlin, Germany (2021); Bettina Weiß, Space MM, Seoul, South Korea (2019); *Misty Molecules*, Semjon Contemporary, Berlin, Germany (2018), *Fragments of a Magic Garden*, Gallery Bundo, Daegu, South Korea (2018); among others. Her work was most recently featured in Los Angeles in the group exhibitions *Here and Now* at Monte Vista Projects (2022) as part of a B-LA CONNECT as well as *NOMAD*, Torrance Art Museum (2021) and *co/lab III*, Torrance Art Museum (2018).

Other recent group exhibitions include *J+1*, Galerie Jarmuschek + Partner, Berlin (2022); *Reset to Start*, Semjon Contemporary, Berlin (2022); *A Faint Ground*, HilbertRaum, Berlin (2022); *Obsolete*, nationalmuseum, Berlin (2022); *North_Over_Sea*, Kunsthalle Wilhelmshaven, German, *Schimmer*, Kunstverein Neukölln, Berlin (2019) and *Lebenswege*, Kasseler Kunstverein, Fridericianum, Kassel (2018). Her works are held in the Public Collections of Sammlung Landesbank Baden-Württemberg, Germany and many private collections. Weiß is represented by Semjon Contemporary and currently lives and works in Berlin, Germany.

ABOUT HIMALAYA CLUB

The Himalaya Club is located in Inglewood, California and is ongoing artist run collaborative project presented in studio of artist Lucas Reiner which provides opportunities for local and out of town artists to introduce their work to audiences in Southern California through exhibitions and public programs. Past exhibitions have included artists from London, Berlin, Germany; Rome, Italy; Vienna, Austria; Warsaw, Poland; Lviv, Ukraine; and Rapid City, South Dakota. Past artists include Agata Bogacka, Fabian Cerejido, Michael Dressel, Thomas Kratz, Francesco Siqueiros, and Johannes Spalt among others.

ABOUT EDWARD CELLA ART & ARCHITECTURE

Edward Cella Art & Architecture is committed to supporting significant established, mid-career, and emerging artists, architects, and designers. Nurturing this hybridity, the gallery uniquely exhibits photography, painting, sculpture, architectural drawings, models, and design objects with an emphasis on the intersection of these disciplines. Edward Cella founded Edward Cella Art & Architecture in 2006, building on his background as an architectural historian with a decade of experience in art advisory and collection management and a passion for collecting architectural drawings and ephemera, as well as contemporary art. The gallery sustains a curatorial emphasis on discourses surrounding issues of cultural and conceptual significance and has represented historical and under-recognized estates and collections.

For Further Information, Please Contact:

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