



JANPETER MUILWIJK

Paper

FLATLAND AMSTERDAM

Lijnbaansgracht 314,
1017 WZ Amsterdam

Open: Wednesday – Saturday, 1 pm – 6 pm
November 30, 2012 _ January 5, 2013

Preview: Saturday December 1st, 4.00 – 6.00 pm

Flatland Gallery is pleased to announce the exhibition 'Paper' by Dutch artist Janpeter Muilwijk; a solo show that includes new pencil and gouache drawings with that famous 'Matisse-like' feeling.

'Paper', the title, has much to do with the artist's love for the qualities of the medium: the patience, the blankness (unprejudiced) and its absorbent feature. 'Paper' implicates as well that what used to be fuzzy can be made clear. And from the historical point of view, the word 'Paper' implies 'foreverness'. Historical documents of more than 2000 years old, such as the written command "Let it be done" by Cleopatra, have proven to be of significant meaning for so many generations.

For the artist these features (patience, absorbing features, clarity, continuity) have a place to stay in his ideal of an original and pure world. His drawings give us access to a contemplative life, calm and different than today's mundane world. To say it differently, in a world that has come adrift his drawings form a window to a blissful universe that renders comfort or at least a moment of peace. Perhaps even a tiny moment of the feasibility of uncomplicated happiness. Often his figures seem to float in a vacuum or are seated in the narrow frame, which arouses this very good feeling: His drawings often seem to be carved from soft stone, from Africa, where the origin of man began.

Janpeter Muilwijk (1960, Fontainebleau, France)

Janpeter Muilwijk graduated in 1984 at the Chr. Academy for Fine Arts, Kampen, the Netherlands, in Drawing and painting. In 2005 he was awarded the Purmarijn Grafiekprijs, in 1997 the Paul Citroen Price, and in 1992 he received the Royal Price for Painting. In 2010 he presented at Saatchi Gallery during London Collect his tapestries, the most delicate "art rugs", all Jacquard woven on silk, linen and with threads of mohair. These were presented later that year at Show Off, in Paris during the Fiac. In 2011 he was granted the commission for a giant tapestry for the Nieuwe Kerk Middelburg (16th century) which is part of the abbey of the historic town. The size of the tapestry (art rug) was 10.70 meter high and 3.30 meter wide, just about the size of a church window, and was concentrated on the theme of the great life questions, formulated as 'Origin, aim and sense'. The realisation of this project took about one and a half year and included working with people (vrijwilligers) of the community to participate in the creating of the embroidery. The tapestry was woven under the auspices of the Audax Textile Museum Tilburg. Earlier in his career, Muilwijk created a contemporary liturgical cloak embroidered with precious goldthreads for the statue of Saint Mary for the St. Jan cathedral in Den Bosch. To realise the gold embroideries Muilwijk worked together with 16 women from the church community.

Janpeter Muilwijk is represented by Flatland Gallery (Utrecht, Amsterdam, Paris).

More information or images:

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