

RICHARD HÖGLUND  
*Twelve Joyful Hours*  
25 January – 23 March 2019

Ronchini Gallery is pleased to present *Twelve Joyful Hours*, the second solo exhibition of works by artist Richard Höglund at the gallery. Featuring fourteen new paintings, the title is inspired by the fourteen-step Catholic devotion of the Stations of the Cross, or the Way of the Cross, a series of images depicting the path of Jesus Christ leading to his crucifixion.

*Twelve Joyful Hours* is an open system of paintings, made either in cycles of small groups or individually, but exhibited together in groups of fourteen. The titles of the works are interchangeable because, as Barnett Newman put it, "Do not the Stations tell of one event?" The titles reflect the complexity that accumulates into the outburst: "Why?!" Just as there can be no response to this, these paintings are not a response, but a charged silence. They are full of gesture, full of the irrepressible cry.

*Twelve Joyful Hours* is a reflection on the varied influences underwriting the artist's work: the pure pleasure or formalism of Leonardo Da Vinci's *La Gioconda*, a hard climb or the human condition as seen in the *Stations of the Cross* and the suffering mother of Jesus symbolising motherly or universal love in the associated work, *Stabat Mater*. The *Mona Lisa* (1503) is the source of both the dimensions and the underlying composition of the first twelve works. Höglund was inspired by its colours and the spectrum of light diffused in a simple square arrangement. His use of light, refracted into a rainbow of colour, is an apt analogy for the impetus of this work: to revisit the *Stations of the Cross* and *the Stabat Mater* as a universal song of the human condition.

**Richard Höglund** was born in New York, USA in 1982, and lives and works in Paris, France. He was educated at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts and MIT in Boston, USA and holds a MFA from the Haute École des Arts du Rhin, in Strasbourg, France (2008).

Höglund was awarded the Prix Jeune Création, Paris, France (2006) and has participated in several residency programs including Villa Ruffieux, Sierre, Switzerland (2013), Cannonball, Miami, USA (2012) and Villa Bernasconi, Geneva, Switzerland (2010).

Selected solo exhibitions include:

Primary Colours, Ronchini Gallery, London, UK (2016); Desert Octave, Custot Gallery, Dubai, United Arab Emirates (2016); Skafffell, Seyðisfjörður, Iceland (2015); Tête, Berlin, Germany (2012); Dimensions Variable, Miami, USA (2012); Mamco, Geneva, Switzerland (2010); Gallery Diet, Miami, USA (2009); Le Salon du Dessin Contemporain, Paris, France (2008); La Chaufferie, Strasbourg, France (2006).

Selected group exhibitions include:

TWO x TWO Auction, The Rachofsky House, Dallas, USA (2017); Black, White..., Custot Gallery, Dubai, UAE (2017); Hashtag Abstract, Ronchini Gallery, London, UK (2015); Le Chasseur Noir, Maison de Courten, Sierre, Switzerland (2013); Taller de Tacita Dean, Villa Iris, Santander, Switzerland (2013); Eye On the Storm, Housatonic Museum, Bridgeport, USA (2013); Villa Iris, Santander, Spain (2013); Bob Rauschenburg Gallery, Fort Myers, USA (2013); New World School of the Arts, Miami, USA (2011); Bakehouse Art Complex, Miami, USA (2010); Musée de l'Oeuvre Notre Dame, Strasbourg, France (2007); National Art Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria (2007); La Bellevilloise, Paris, France (2006); and Mumok, Vienna, Austria (2006).

**Exhibition:** Richard Höglund: *Twelve Joyful Hours*

**Dates:** 25 January – 23 March 2019

**Opening Hours:** Monday – Friday 10am – 6pm, Saturday 12 – 5pm

**Location:** 22 Dering Street, London, W1S 1AN

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Ronchini Gallery: Instagram and Twitter: @RonchiniGallery #RonchiniGallery

Richard Höglund: Instagram: @richardhoglund #RichardHöglund / Twitter: #RichardHöglund

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