

For immediate release:

MATTER & CONJECTURE
KES ZAPKUS STEFAN GRITSCH
curated by Marjorie Welish
MAY 11-JUNE 19, 2016

Opening:
Friday, May 20, 2016, 6-9PM



KES ZAPKUS, *MATTER & CONJECTURE*, 1990, oil on cotton
2 joined panels: 60" x 84" and 28" x 20"
Photo: courtesy of the artist and ART 3 gallery

Brooklyn, NY – ART 3 gallery is pleased to present in cooperation with Margarete Roeder Gallery, a two persons exhibition *MATTER CONJECTURE: KES ZAPKUS STEFAN GRITSCH*, curated by Marjorie Welish on view May 11-June 19, 2016 at ART 3 gallery, 109 Ingraham Street, Brooklyn NY.

This exhibition derives its rationale from the title of a major painting by Kes Zapkus. Zapkus's surfaces are rich in spatial memory, from aerial views and architectural plans. Presented in this exhibition are two important works by Zapkus, *Matter & Conjecture* (1990) and *Nervous System* (1997) presented along with more recent works from 2015 and 2016. *Nervous System* is a spectacular work which the artists started as a human body orientation referring to the spinal column and the endless branching nerves. As the work evolved, the configurations became geometrized and strict architectural systems emerged. The *Nervous System* was finally referred to the layout of a centrally political or governing system.

Stefan Gritsch aggregates in blocks or tile panes or kneaded lumps—all are productive of a sculptural practice at once in conversation with 'Supports / Surfaces' and the canon of modern abstraction. Gritsch's surfaces are dense with visual knowledge infusing pigmental stuff. Matter is not inert, but an expression of the possibilities of construction. Presented in the show are some of his pigment blocks along with tiles and a few Bones with pigments.

Both artists share those possibilities of construction.

Kes Zapkus is an American painter born in Lithuania in 1938. He has exhibited extensively internationally and his work is in prestigious collections in the USA and abroad notably The Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY, The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL, Joseph Hirshhorn Museum & Sculpture Garden Washington D.C, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., Museum Boymans-van Beuningen, Rotterdam, The Netherlands, Jacksonville Museum of Modern Art, FL, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, Morgan Library and Museum, NY, NY, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA. Exhibitions include retrospectives at Museum of Art, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, and The Vilnius Museum of Art, Vilnius, Lithuania, coincident with the publication of a catalogue *Kestutis Zapkus*, with essays by Lucy Lippard, Sandra Skurvida, and Marjorie Welish. Zapkus lives and works in New York.

Stefan Gritsch is a Swiss artist born in Bern, Switzerland in 1951. His work expands from drawing, collages, paintings, wall projects and tables with acrylic pigment matter blocks. He has had major exhibitions in Switzerland at Museum Bellpark, Krens, and Museum of Art, Lucerne. A retrospective catalogue, *Body of Memory*, has just been published. Gritsch lives and works in Lenzburg, Switzerland.

ART 3 gallery is a dynamic contemporary art gallery located in Bushwick's vibrant arts district. Established in February 2014 by **Silas Shabelewska**, formerly of **Haunch of Venison (Christie's)** and **Helly Nahmad Gallery** NY. The gallery focuses on works by emerging and mid-career artists. Please contact ART 3 for further information at info@art-3gallery.com