

Press Release

Sarah Kogan: Warp

22 April–21 May 2022

Room 2, Soho, London

Open Tuesday–Friday, 11am–6pm; Saturday 11am–5pm

Karsten Schubert London is pleased to present *Warp*, an exhibition of new paintings by Sarah Kogan. Working in stages in her London studio, Kogan applies paint that she then scrapes away or paints over, leaving traces of its existence or memory, a process she likens to leaving her 'fingerprints' behind. Often comprised of multiple layers in varying degrees of opacity, each composition exists within the outline of an amorphous shape set against a pale background, highlighting the surface variations. Kogan's method of controlling and manipulating the materiality of paint creates shapes-within-shapes comprised of controlled spills, stains and solid pools of colour. The result of this deliberate entanglement instills the paintings with a condensed visceral energy that appears to circulate within it.

Included in this exhibition is a new series of works entitled *Medusa (i–iv)* (2022). Although abstract by nature, these paintings call to mind multiple tubular forms that have been dropped or slipped into the top edge of the canvas and loop indiscriminately back upwards as if they were attached to an unknown, greater mass. Kogan is interested in this notion, that we are only seeing a section of matter without knowing what it is attached to, if anything, encouraging a feeling of unease. Created by wide brush marks in jewel-like dark blue tones, these arrangements of sinuous forms, translucent in places, describe swirling lines that recur throughout the paintings to varying degrees of density.

Like her earlier works, *Freefall*, *Nebula* (both 2019) and *The Gordian Knot*, (2020) the complexity Kogan achieves by adding and subtracting paint is both disarming and deeply personal, allowing the viewer a glimpse at the emotional response within the artist's process. Yet there is a



lightness to these painted ribbons and loops that fluctuate between foreground and background with a fluid sense of continual motion, caught and held like a snapshot that could at any time alter in shape or position.

Sarah Kogan: Warp is accompanied by an exhibition booklet with text by Colin Wiggins.

About the artist

Sarah Kogan is a British artist based in London. She is a trustee of APT Gallery and Studios.

Recent exhibitions include: *Sarah Kogan: Take me to the Light*, Karsten Schubert London (online, 2021); *Sarah Kogan: From the Corner of my Eye*, Karsten Schubert London (online, 2020); and *Miniscule Venice* (58th Venice Biennale, 2019). Recent curatorial projects include *Supernova* (Blyth Gallery, Imperial College London) and *Space Shift* (APT Gallery, London). From 2016–18 Kogan's multimedia First World War art installation *Changing the Landscape* was supported by public funding from The National Lottery through Arts Council of England and exhibited in four international and national venues including: Museo d'Arte Contemporanea di Cogliandrino, Italy; The National Archives, UK; Atrium Gallery, London School of Economics and Manchester Central Library. Sarah Kogan has been a guest lecturer at Chelsea College of Arts, The Estorick Collection and on the ground-breaking 'Art of Psychiatry' module at Bethlem Royal Hospital.

About Karsten Schubert London

Karsten Schubert London is a contemporary art gallery in Soho, London, representing a list of prominent and emerging British artists: Rose English, Kirsten Glass, Tess Jaray, Sarah Kogan, Cathie Pilkington, Frances Richardson and Alison Wilding. Since its founding in 1986 the gallery has presented a continuous exhibition programme in London's Soho, today operating at 46 and 44 Lexington Street. The gallery works to nurture the careers of its artists through commercial exhibitions, fostering institutional shows and purchases, commissions and publications by its publishing arm, Ridinghouse.

Press Enquiries

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