

## MARLON WOBST

### *Sunsetter*

painting – tapestry – sculpture

27. 01 – 12. 03. 2022

#### OPENING

Thursday, January 27<sup>th</sup> – 5pm > 8.30pm

#### SUNDAY OPENINGS

Sunday January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm > 6pm – [www.marais.guide](http://www.marais.guide)

Sunday February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm > 6pm – [www.marais.guide](http://www.marais.guide)

#### At a window

Give me hunger,  
O you gods that sit and give  
The world its orders.  
Give me hunger, pain and want,  
Shut me out with shame and failure  
From your doors of gold and fame,  
Give me your shabbiest, weariest hunger!

But leave me a little love,  
A voice to speak to me in the day end,  
A hand to touch me in the dark room

Breaking the long loneliness.  
In the dusk of day-shapes  
Blurring the sunset,  
One little wandering, western star  
Thrust out from the changing shores of shadow.  
Let me go to the window,  
Watch there the day-shapes of dusk  
And wait and know the coming  
Of a little love.

**Carl Sandburg**

Published in *Poetry*, 1914

**Variations of pinks of a silhouette that moves forward in a nocturnal background: *Sunsetter*... An enigmatic title that is rich in meaning - impossible to translate - and quite emblematic of Marlon Wobst's new works. If lucid observations of easy living existences were predominant in his work until now, a certain gravity seems to have taken over Marlon Wobst's world. It cohabitates nevertheless with the playful, whimsical scenes that the artist cherishes. An evolution can also be seen in the way he paints: the juxtaposed colour planes and expressive gestures bring life to compositions where figures are often made of a few brushstrokes. The coloured matter creates a world less defined where figures barely stand out against big spaces that are deserted, wintery, sometimes heavenly - or even immersed in the ocean where they come face to face with blood red skies. It is warm, it is cold, the light is intense, almost blinding, and the water is rising. Nature, its elements, seem to reign as supreme.**

**Yet, in a studio scene, a nude appears on the canvas. Elsewhere, intertwined bodies exude stolen love and in a canine park, dogs get a taste of a granted freedom.**

**In the monumental painting *Couple*, we see two men from the back: one, very tall, puts his gigantic arm around the shoulders of the other, a grey-haired puny man. Who is holding who? Is it about tenderness? Is the work dealing with the relationship between different generations or is it simply about empathy?**

In the felted wool tapestries, figures play in the water - one of the artist's favorite topics - or live in a grotto. A setting that establishes a coherent link with the somewhat rupestrian form of the felt medium, a world at the frontier of the myth where individuals just let themselves live.

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Sexes, sex and even more sex - if not exploits by yoga aficionados - in Marlon Wobst's new ceramic sculptures. The artist doesn't hold back, unfolding and stretching naked bodies as he would with letters to write his name in 3D. A scene shows an almost empty room: a mattress, dispersed mundane objects lit by a naked lightbulb. Elsewhere, a broom is waiting, against the wall.

As always, colour plays a major role in Marlon Wobst's work. Dark tones have made their way through; the world has dimmed the light, and from a daytime vaudeville we are now immersed in a dark 'théâtre noir' setting. The decor makes it harder to find one's bearings, but the delicate and personal palette subtly gleams and resists obscurity.

**With *Sunsetter*, Marlon Wobst plays it by ear. Sometimes vision only offers bodies, a way to find comfort and enjoy, a toilet paper roll left in a room as an evocation of presence. At other times, this vision broadens to offer a perspective both terrible and splendid in its extravagance. There, one can feel helpless, fragile, or on the other hand, overwhelmed but completely and totally alive.**

## background

Marlon Wobst was born in 1980 in Wiesbaden in Germany. At the age of ten, he met a friend of his father's: Klaus Theuerkauf - artist, musician and co-founder of the group *Endart* - adept of an irreverent, pop, punk and rebel art. This meeting proved to be decisive for young Marlon in wanting to become an artist. Today, the two men are neighbours in Berlin where Marlon Wobst moved to in 2008 in order to study at the Universität der Künste after a first diploma at the Akademie für Bildende Künste in Mainz (2005-2008). In 2011, he finished a master's degree in Finnish artist Robert Lucander's class at the UdK. This year, Marlon Wobst has been invited to host a series of conferences on painting at this very institution.

In 2015, the artist was given the **International Solo Award 2015** by the Charlottenborg Fonden - granting him a personal exhibition - *Twister I* - at the prestigious institution **Kunsthall Charlottenborg** in Copenhagen the following spring. The **Summerhall** institution in Edinburgh presented his first exhibition in the United Kingdom in 2019: *Friends*, featuring his felted wool tapestries. In 2020, Marlon Wobst received **a special grant from the Senatsverwaltung für Kultur und Europa** in Berlin.

Since 2011, Marlon Wobst has had about twenty personal exhibitions in Europe and in Brazil and has participated in over fifty exhibitions in numerous countries such as the United States, Italy, Spain, Russia, Mexico, Denmark and Finland.

A monograph of his work - *Marlon Wobst* - was published in 2017 by Kerber Verlag and a catalogue dedicated to his felted wool work was edited in 2018.

***Sunsetter* is Marlon Wobst's fourth exhibition at the Galerie Maria Lund.** It comes after *Starter* (painting, 2015), *L'Oasi* (painting and sculpture, 2017) and *Relax* (painting and tapestry, 2019). The gallery has also presented the artist's work at *D-DESSIN* (Paris, 2019) and most recently at the *Luxembourg Art Week – The Fair* (Luxembourg, 2021).

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