

Ulf Puder
Transversus



Ulf Puder, Untitled, 2015, oil on canvas, 80 x 100 cm

The paintings of Ulf Puder depict an imagined future, subtly dystopian, with architectural landscapes void of any human presence. Consisting purely of shape and colour, his paintings hold a middle ground between abstraction and realism. Collapsing bungalows reveal a prefab casing, transforming the buildings into geometrical shapes half-way their construction. Greenhouses divide the canvas into vibrant colour planes, illuminating a dark and smoky sky laden with the sense of a looming apocalypse. At times, the buildings seem completely shuffled by a windswept force, leaving them scattered, piled or partly dismantled in an ambiguous calmness.

The title of Ulf Puder's show—'Transversus'—links directly to this unhinged world, in which he juxtaposes the contours of architecture, tilting sharp lines to hauntingly heel over in their axes. Using a distinctive palette of unexpected, subdued colours—pink and yellow walls, blue or purple blinds—the landscapes seem at once both familiar and other-worldly. For the titles of his works, Puder cites renowned paintings in art history. Though created without any reference to these titles at first, Puder later consciously searches for coincidental parallels, either formally or in the slightest colour hue, adding a dimension of poetic serendipity through the captions of his paintings.

Puder graduated from the Leipziger Hochschule für Grafik und Buchkunst in 1989 as one of the leading painters of his generation. His work has influenced young painters both in Germany as well as Eastern and Central Europe.

Ulf Puder's (1958, Leipzig, Germany) work is part of major public and private collections worldwide. He has exhibited at prestigious institutions, most recently a solo exhibition at Städtische Galerie Wolfsburg (DE) and Stadtmuseum Oldenburg (DE). He has further been exhibited at Moderna Museet, Stockholm (SE); Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin (DE); Museum Ludwig, Budapest (HU); Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase, New York (US); Camden Art Centre, London (UK); Museum de Paviljoens, Almere (NL); Kunsthau Dresden (DE); Museo Municipal de Malaga (ES), and numerous galleries in both Europe and the United States. Ulf Puder was a 'Meisterschüler' of Prof. Bernhard Heisig. He lives and works in Leipzig.