

PRESS RELEASE

Sophie von Hellermann | *Out of Time*
Pilar Corrias Savile Row
1 – 24 September 2022

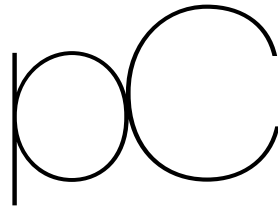


Sophie von Hellermann, *Enthused by Eos*, 2022. Courtesy the artist and Pilar Corrias, London

Pilar Corrias is pleased to announce a solo exhibition by Sophie von Hellermann at the gallery's Savile Row space.

Out of Time explores the forces of chaos and destruction as vital principles in the creation of human life, our habitats, the earth and the universe. The exhibition includes a series of new paintings that explores origin stories to speculate how the earth may change or remake itself in the future.

Drawing from scientific postulations like the 'Big Bang', cosmogony and theories of infinity, along with mythological symbols of eternal renewal, each work depicts an event of creation born out of chaos. With focused, even frenetic, energy, von Hellermann produces her works by applying pure pigments directly onto unprimed canvas, conveying a sense of immediate action that at times suggests the idea of an explosion.



The starting point for this series can be traced back to the artist's recent readings of Hindu concepts of non-linear time and the goddess Kali, who brings about new life through death and destruction. Such a conception of revolution and its inherent cyclical nature took on new meanings for the artist, as what might appear as a radical, progressive overturning of systems and orders may in fact be interlocked with otherworldly forces.

As opposed to agents of change, von Hellermann suggests that humans are instruments played by a primordial force. Without denying the consequential impact of humans on the world, *Out of Time* invites us to admit our own humility and question how the universe may evolve without us in unexpected ways.

Sophie von Hellermann (b. 1975, Munich, Germany) lives and works in London and Margate, UK. Selected solo exhibitions include: Schloss Freienwalde, Bad Freienwalde, Germany (2022, commission); *Von kommenden Dingen*, Wentrup, Berlin (2022); *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Pilar Corrias, London (2020); *Swirls and Circles*, Wentrup, Berlin (2019); *Ileden*, Greene Naftali, New York (2019); *New Waves*, Pilar Corrias, London (2018); *Sophie von Hellermann*, Office Baroque, Brussels (2017); *After a Fashion— A Play with Fire*, Vilma Gold, London (2015); *Novel Ways*, Greene Naftali, New York (2013); *Elephant in the Room*, Firstsite, Colchester (2013); *Crying for The Sunset*, Vilma Gold, London (2011); *Sophie von Hellermann & Josh Smith*, Museum Dhondt-Dhaenens, Deurle, Belgium and Le Consortium, Dijon, France (2010); *Judgement Day*, Chisenhale Gallery, London; and Neuer Aachener Kunstverein, Aachen (2006). Selected group exhibitions include: *Sirens: Sophie von Hellermann and Anne Ryan*, Turner Contemporary, Kent, UK (commission) (2021); *Mixing It Up: Painting Today*, Hayward Gallery, London (2021); *With a Capital P: Selections by Six Painters*, Elmhurst Art Museum, Berlin (2019); Jahregaben 2016, Bonner Kunstverein, Bonn (2016); *Jerwood Encounters: The Grantchester Pottery Paints the Stage*, Jerwood Visual Arts, London (2015); *Empathy and Abstraction: Modernist Women in Germany*, Kunsthalle Bielefeld (2015); *I Cheer a Dead Man's Sweetheart*, De La Warr Pavillion, Bexhill-on-Sea (2014); *Out of the House*, Cranford Collection, Fundacion Banco Santander, Madrid (2013); *In the Disappearing Mist, the Gift of Whispers*, Focal Point Gallery, Southend (2012); *Watercolour*, Tate Britain, London (2011); *100 Years, 100 Artists, 100 Works of Art*, Art on the Underground, London (2008).

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