

ANCIENT & MODERN

PRESS RELEASE

PETER LINDE BUSK, 'FULL CATASTROPHE LIVING' 18 MARCH - 24 APRIL 2010

ANCIENT & MODERN presents an installation of new large-scale collages and prints by Peter Linde Busk in his second solo exhibition at the gallery.

Full Catastrophe Living refers to the title of a self-help book by Jon Kabat-Zinn, who champions a way of living that involves Buddhism-influenced ideals such as self-awareness, reflection, and acceptance. It suggests actively embracing 'negative' pressures like anxiety, darkness, and catastrophe, in the knowledge that these forces lie beyond our human control.

Collage represents a significant element of his practice as the pieces always exist alongside his painting and printmaking; the scraps or discarded pieces which eventually constitute a collage are a sort of Frankensteinian composite of other works both successful and failed. The notion of failure or disappointment is a central preoccupation within Busk's body of work, but also the potentially creative, humorous, and liberating aspects: that the pitfalls and trials, the deepest mines of intellectual, emotional, and artistic life - when delved into - can yield the greatest riches.

Like the material surfaces of the collages, the titles of the works are borrowed from disparate contexts of contemporary culture ranging from HBO series *The Wire*, *Deadwood*, and *Entourage*, to Leonard Cohen, Smashing Pumpkins, and Mark Eitzel song lyrics. The work is never intended to illustrate its title, or vice versa. Rather the two are meant to "rub each other the wrong way," to spur a series of metonymical shifts that create a tension in which one is challenged to imagine or sense an atmosphere or sentiment that is palpable but not deliberately circumscribed.

Together, they attempt to create an atmosphere made from, yet existing outside and hovering at the margins of, everyday life. In both the form and content of his paintings, collages, and printmaking, Busk explores that which courses beneath and within - how this often dark matter is manifest in various tropes and forms of art, of which his own works then become another side-step or translation.

Peter Linde Busk (b.1974, Copenhagen, lives Berlin) is a graduate of the Royal Academy Schools (2009) and The Slade, UCL (2006). Busk's first solo show at Ancient & Modern was in 2007; he is included in group shows such as the upcoming Newspeak, The Saatchi Gallery (2010), The Long Dark, International 3, Manchester and Hatton Gallery, Newcastle and BolteLang, Zurich (all 2009-10).

Exhibition Preview: Wednesday 17 March, 6-8pm

Exhibition open Wednesdays - Saturdays, 12 - 6pm and by appointment

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