All Nature Has a Feeling 3.10 – 01.11.2025

## **Participating Artists:**

Anna Bjerger (SE, b. 1973), Hayley Barker (US, b. 1973), Helene Appel (DE, b. 1976), Josephine Halvorson (US, b. 1981), Lisa D. Manner (SE, b. 1979), Mike Silva (UK, b. 1970), Tal R (DK, b. 1967), Tue Greenfort (DK, b. 1973)

This exhibition stems from a love of gardening, a practice that brings people into direct contact with nature and its cycles of growth and decay. Gardening requires patience, presence, and an acceptance of impermanence. Each season brings surprises; no outcome is guaranteed. While gardening people feel connected to nature, not just observing it, but being a part of it.

The gallery has gathered a group of artists who make work focused on the natural world. Historically, landscape painting sought the sublime with images of sweeping vistas and grand spectacle. All Nature Has a Feeling brings people into an intimate, fingertip connection to nature. From a roadside weed to a woodland path, these works invite us to slow down and pay attention, to find wonder in what we commonly ignore.

Why do we experience nature as external, a resource, a view, rather than something we are a part of. This distancing has a history. Scientific classification, Enlightenment ideals, and aesthetic traditions have taught us to separate, categorise, and control. Scientists like Linnaeus and Darwin gave us hierarchies and taxonomies, which helped us understand the world but also shaped how we value it: the pure over the tangled, the beautiful over the overlooked, the useful over the seemingly useless.

The scale of the climate emergency can feel overwhelming but by following the artists' lead, by honing in on the manageable details we can begin to make a difference. The contemporary philosopher Emanuele Coccia reminds us that we do not live on Earth but within it: the air we breathe connects us to other bodies; the food we eat becomes our cells. Naming a tree by the roadside, a weed outside the window, is already a form of recognition, of kinship. Olivia Laing (herbalist/art critic/novelist/gardener), reveals how nature enters our emotional lives, offering healing and connection in a fractured world.

These ideas aren't new.

John Clare (1793–1864), the radical English nature poet, whose poems named over 770 plant species, wrote:

All nature has a feeling: woods, fields, brooks
Are life eternal: and in silence they
Speak happiness beyond the reach of books;
There's nothing mortal in them; their decay
Is the green life of change; to pass away
And come again in blooms revivified.
Its birth was heaven, eternal it its stay,
And with the sun and moon shall still abide
Beneath their day and night and heaven wide.

## The eight artists participating in the exhibition are:

- **Anna Bjerger**'s *Landscape at Night*, a painting of a painting, showing our distance from nature, we stand before it as an image, rather than moving within it.
- Hayley Barker's A Beautiful Home depicts an enclosed garden, where suburban order gives way to wildness. Like a hidden paradise, it becomes a meeting of nature and domestic life.
- **Helene Appel**'s Sand, Branch and Pinecone render ordinary subjects with trompe l'oeil precision at 1-1 scale, balancing banality with quiet minimalism.
- **Josephine Halvorson**'s *Roots* transforms a patch of earth into a tangle of attention, turning the overlooked into a kind of found roadside still-life.
- **Lisa D. Manner**'s work, *Vertigo*, merges interior and exterior, a duvet in the foreground, a tangled tree beyond, where the boundaries of home and wilderness blur.
- **Mike Silva**'s paintings, *Pond* and *Hyde Park*, capture fleeting light, colour, and memory, intimate encounters with nature drawn from personal photographs.
- **Tal R**'s *Pink Road Through Forest (November November)* leads us into a dark woodland, where a red path glows beneath the autumn sun.
- **Tue Greenfort**'s *Blackberry Vases*, *Bronze Bulrush* and *Fungus* translate plants into ceramic, metal and 3D print, reflecting on how nature becomes culture.