

Vera Palme
Oil on oil

11.04. - 10.05.2026

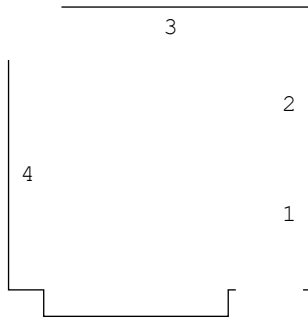
Schleuse
Schelleingasse 26
1040 Vienna
www.schleuse.biz

Sometimes I wonder if I understand the significance of them before it's too late and they've slipped or I've been staring at shed skin, an exuvia, unknowingly. And sometimes I'd like to restore this previous form, put it back on. ... But now it's more like a sock or a leather mask. Leatherface.

from "Shed Sensitivity", 2022

Sometimes we wonder if we get the significance of things before it's too late and they slip away and we are just staring at shed skin unknowingly. And then sometimes we'd like to be able to restore this previous form, put it back on. But now it's kind of like a sock or a leather face. Things kept on repeat.

from "Wave text", 2023



Of course it doesn't work. Nothing is being restored. Abstract painting remains a problem.

Commonly painting is not considered time-based. Neither is impatience. Adding strip frames to paintings for over ten years now, the option to make the strip frame sprawl is just as old. An entire surface covered, like sunscreen or mildew; less flimsy, the framing less tentative or makeshift. I've been painting a lot. The thing is permanent.

1
Oil on oil, 2026
Oil on linen, fake leather
180 x 130 cm

Some decisions are inevitable, as much as they aren't really decisions, but consequences, casualties. Some suggest themselves irresistibly, some out of habit, habit of the hand, others are of 'quality': new and very good. Some a bad mistake.

2
Oil on oil, 2026
Oil on cotton, fake leather
180 x 130 cm

(Don't be so negative! Inevitability is a sober term.) Each time the final brushstroke is the last brushstroke—that's kind of a given—all decisions are equal. A chain of links coming together, they begin their process of distancing.

3
Oil on oil, 2026
Oil on linen, fake leather
180 x 35 cm

The abstract affords more from me when I look at it, suddenly we are negotiating whose generosity is at stake here and who is paving the extra mile to accommodate it. I misunderstand it as inclusive, a candor. To solve the problem is not a solution. These works are candid enough to make things complicated. Uninformed action and Information not acted upon. (You know, Inversion is not saying the same thing but in other words.) Is inversion not saying the same thing but in other words?

4
Oil on oil, 2026
Oil on cotton, linen, fake leather
70 x 100 cm

Well pleather isn't oil, not really, let alone a brushstroke. It's a big pedestrian pun and materials commenting on one another. An exhibition part thought part real.

Fri-Sat / 14-19 h
and by appointment

Black pleather was the most noncommittal, the most versatile in character, least leathery as such yet still the ultimate. The abstract of leather, the abstract of oil, the abstract of nondescript 'I got this under control'. The fake flat monochrome hits a sweet spot; contemplation and hardened zits of paint under the material's industrial fake grain.

Additional opening hours:
14.04. - 19.04.26
Tue-Sun / 14-19 h

At Schleuse *Oil on oil* is a show with four new, contemporary abstract paintings. All four are oil on oil: Fake leather on oil paint on fabric. *They all want to be seen.*

The exhibition is part of
Klima Biennale Vienna.

Text: Vera Palme