



**FELIX BECKER**  
MONOCHROMATIC MUD SNUFFERS

Exhibition catalog

GALERIE  
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**FELIX BECKER**

MONOCHROMATIC MUD SNUFFERS

May 12, 2022 - June 25, 2022

A wooden grasping arm protrudes exploratively from the ceiling of the gallery. Like an oversized trunk or a somewhat clumsy dentist's mirror, it seems to be trying to dissect the visitors. Two years ago, Felix Becker began constructing sculptures out of used fruit crates in Marseille.

What kind of juxtaposition does one witness here? Perhaps a duel between 'Senfblüte', the small sculpture made of paper, and 'Ceres', the wooden creature reminiscent of an aggressive insect? Although the proportions might indicate the predominating power structure, the situation and the role distribution are by no means obvious. Becker's wooden sculptures appear rough and uneven, their material, dozens of staples, and the glue that holds them together, are clearly visible. Perhaps they are the inspiration for the title-giving 'Snuffer', the junkie who stands in clear contrast to the smooth and monotonous.

In contrast, the application of paint in Felix Becker's impasto painting appears malleable, almost butter-soft. He applies oil paint to his canvases in several layers. At closer examination, a bright color peeps out from under the mostly muted colors, often only visible through a tiny corner. The overlapping color that spills over the edge of the background not only negates the cliché of the monochrome rectangle, it also forms a new structure: the color resides in space. The clean-looking works stand in stark contrast to the sticky oil paints that are smeared onto the canvas layer by layer. Looking closer, their application appears rough and uneven-celebrating the imperfect.

This is accompanied by the artist's striking interventions in the originally smooth surfaces of the paint. They look like churned-up mud, dense clouds of steam, or smoky muddy swamps-breaking with the monochrome. Once again, the artist negates the supposed perfection. The works can not only be viewed, but they actively confront you. Thus they appear not only flat and rigid, but tangible and moving, almost animated. It is as if one can make out the inhabitants of that mud: they arch upwards and provoke moments of disturbance on the canvas.

At this point, at the latest, it becomes clear that we cannot speak of abstract painting here - too many figurative elements predominate: Lines, like limbs, entangled or in struggle. Skeleton-like extremities protrude into the field of vision and formally relate to the artist's sculptures.

Anyone who spends much time in front of Felix Becker's painting knows that it always appears differently in varying incidences of light. Time takes a determining factor in the works. Whether it is the length of time it takes for the countless layers of paint to dry, the spontaneous intuition that leads Becker to break up a seemingly perfect surface, or the chance that ultimately determines the final form of his sculptures. 'Monochromatic Mud Snuffers' shows a play of movement and stillness, an ambivalent stop motion in sculpture and painting.

*Julia Meyer-Brehm*





Felix Becker  
Untitled (Plateau), 2022  
Oil on paper on canvas  
171 × 151 × 8,5 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled, 2022  
Oil on paper  
33,3 × 26,5 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled, 2022  
Oil on paper  
26 × 19 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled (Fund), 2022  
Oil on paper on canvas  
85 × 71 × 4,5 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled (Fade root), 2022  
Oil on wood  
58 × 9 × 18,5 cm





Felix Becker  
Untitled (Stego 2), 2022  
Oil on paper on canvas  
46,5 × 41,5 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled (Elbows), 2022  
Oil on paper on canvas  
46 × 41 × 2,5 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled (Gripper), 2022  
Oil on paper on canvas  
170 × 142 × 8,5 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled (Eyes), 2022  
Oil on wood  
32 × 45 × 3 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled (Ceres), Snuffer and Untitled (Senfblüte), 2022  
Wood, oil on paper, mirror  
Installation, dimension variable







Felix Becker  
Untitled (Teich), 2022  
Oil on paper on canvas  
161 × 152 × 8,5 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled (Cataract), 2022  
Oil on paper on canvas  
46,5 × 41,5 × 2,5 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled (Scope), 2022  
Oil on paper on canvas  
46 × 41,5 × 2,5 cm





Felix Becker  
Untitled (Tibia), 2022  
Oil on paper on canvas  
110 × 92 × 4,5 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled (Jerry), 2022  
Oil on wood  
36 × 28,5 × 7 cm

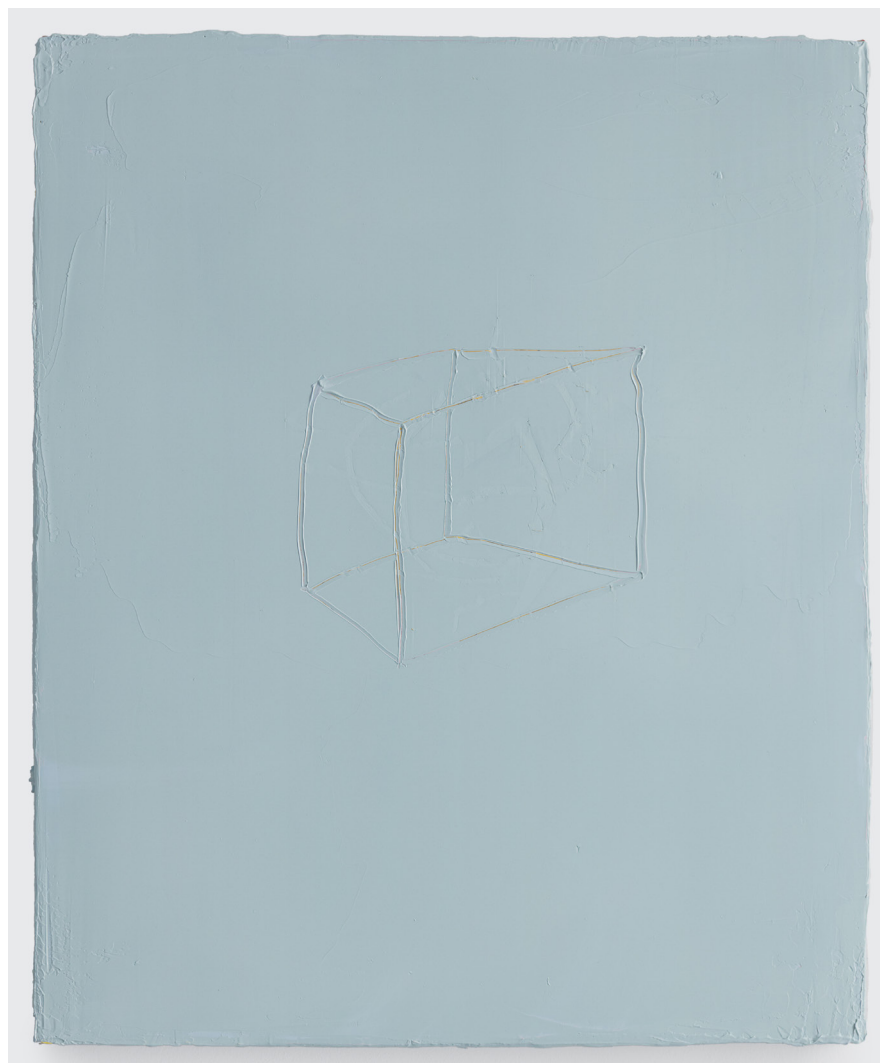


Felix Becker  
Untitled (Ray), 2022  
Oil on wood  
37 × 23 × 6 cm

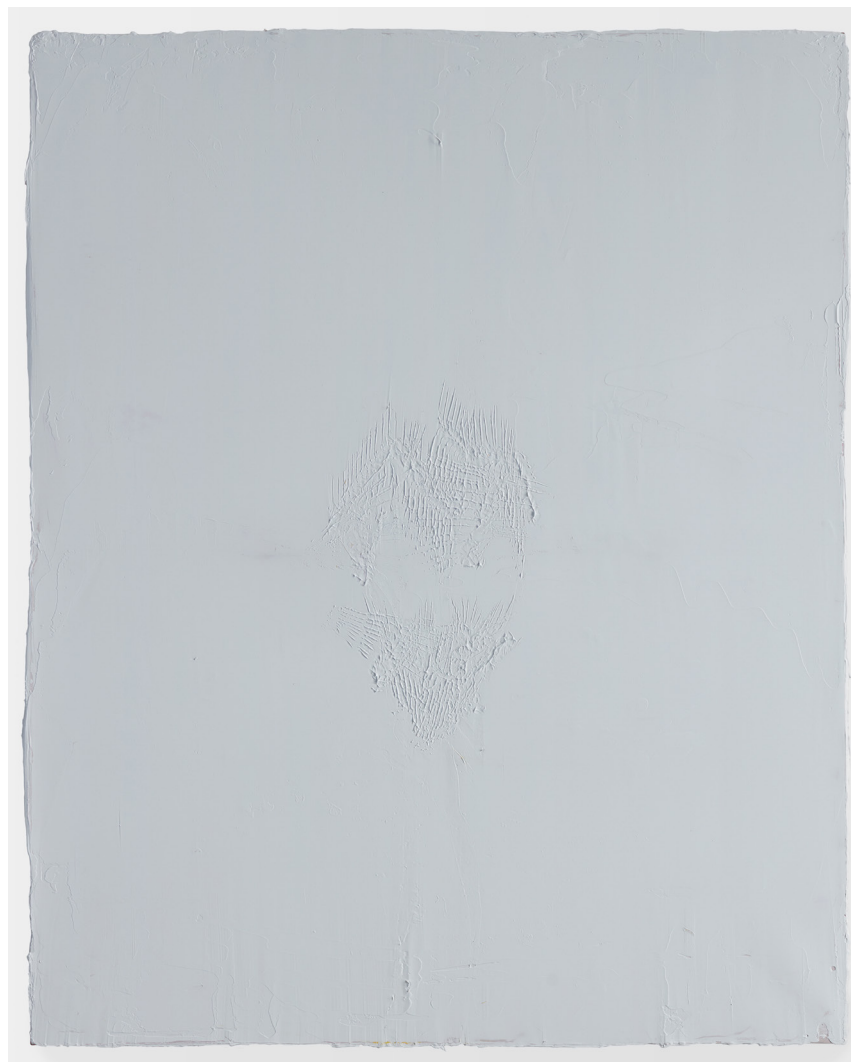


Felix Becker  
Untitled (Fuel), 2022  
Oil on paper on canvas  
106 × 86 × 4,5 cm

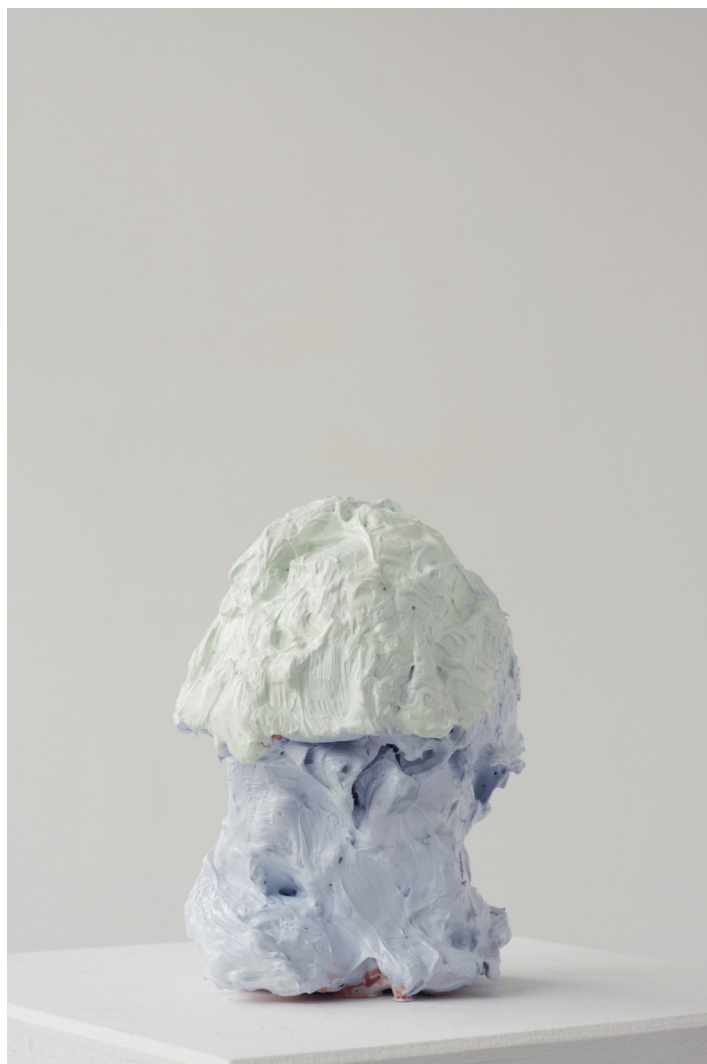




Felix Becker  
Untitled (Spatial Coincidence), 2022  
Oil on paper on canvas  
86 × 70 × 4,5 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled (Bourgeon), 2022  
Oil on paper on canvas  
106 × 86 × 4,5 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled (Seta), 2022  
Oil on paper  
12,5 × 10 × 9 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled (Snail ring), 2022  
Oil on paper  
11,5 × 15,5 × 10,5 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled, 2022  
Oil on paper  
23,2 × 21 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled (Twist), 2022  
Oil on paper  
30 × 23,3 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled, 2022  
Oil on paper  
27 × 24 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled (Poultry), 2022  
Oil on paper  
25,5 × 23,5 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled, 2021  
Oil on paper  
26,5 × 23,5 cm



Felix Becker  
Untitled (Crusty), 2021  
Oil on paper  
9,5 × 22 × 9,5 cm



Felix Becker, born in 1987 in Frankfurt am Main, is a graduate of the Berlin University of the Arts, as a master student of Prof. Thomas Zipp.

He lives and works in Berlin.

## Exhibitions (selected)

- 2022    Monochromatic Mud Snuffers, Galerie Heike Strelow, Frankfurt am Main  
         appreciate the details, gopea Kunstraum Burg Bentheim, Bad Bentheim  
         Phase 1, zuostant, Berlin
- 2021    spook paste, Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, Alabama USA (solo)  
         surfnturf, Vault, Berlin  
         it's only the end, Ausstellung der Absolvent\*innen der Bildenden Kunst der UdK Berlin, Kühlhaus, Berlin  
         Neuroplastics, Feld+Haus Projects, Berlin  
         Direkte Auktion, Phosphenes, flies and other dots, Pirol studios, Berlin  
         From Adlershof with Love, xpinky, Berlin
- 2020    Essential Reduction, Galerie Heike Strelow, Frankfurt a. M.  
         Peintre Porcs, Horner Eck, Bremen  
         Can you hear me? No, but can you see me?, Galerie Heike Strelow, Frankfurt am Main  
         19 Duitse academies, Villa de Bank, Enschede  
         Black Friday, West Germany, Berlin  
         Sleeper in Metropolis, Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, Alabama, USA  
         Too much, un peu, Sissi Club, Marseille

- 2019    Paper selections, Galerie Heike Strelow, Frankfurt am Main
- They put it together, Kunstquartier Bethanien, Berlin
- Painting after painting II, Galerie Heike Strelow, Frankfurt am Main
- forms ain't formats, Loock Galerie, Berlin
- Günstig tanken!, Substanz der Stadt-Tanke, Mainz
- Tel un geste captivant la lumière, Galerie Isabelle Gounod, Paris
- Schaububinnen, Gallery Circle 1, Berlin
- Rumhängen, Raum für drastische Maßnahmen, Berlin
- Rips, fffriedrich, Frankfurt a. M. (solo)
- 2018    Kombi Ó, Kunstquartier Bethanien, Berlin
- Existential Slap, Forum Factory, Berlin
- Kein Capri, Kosmetiksalon Bar Babette, Berlin
- A burning Giraffe, coGalleries, Berlin
- Aroma Musa, Kunsthau Torstraße 111, Berlin
- Verboten, verboten, Das Giftraum, Berlin
- Wie ist es (ein Weichtierchen zu sein), Berlin (solo)
- erase reverse, Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, Alabama, USA

## Scholarships and grants (selected)

- 2021 Thoma Foundation Recognition Award
- 2021 Nomination for the master student award of the president of the Universität der Künste Berlin
- 2019 Erasmus+ Scholarship, École supérieure d'art et de design Marseille-Méditerranée



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GALERIE  
HEIKE  
STRELOW

GALERIE HEIKE STRELOW  
Lange Straße 31  
D-60311 Frankfurt am Main  
+49 (0) 69-48 00 544-0  
[info@galerieheikestrelow.de](mailto:info@galerieheikestrelow.de)  
[www.galerieheikestrelow.de](http://www.galerieheikestrelow.de)