

## *Essential painting: Breaking the Views*

“Counting is cold thought, measuring is forgetting the world” (Ludwig Wittgenstein)

Like the world my head is turned upside down. It all started with the outbreak in Wuhan and it still continues. How a work is conceived and constructed is a difficult question. Since the outbreak of corona, I am fascinated by the actual panic in the global aftermath of the outbreak. In my works before the corona outbreak I collected and worked on reusing waste materials, like the covers of old books, transforming these to our present joint of time. Wasted matter recycled in new images, issuing a sign. Not by imagining my life, let alone Life, but mainly to mirror the present world in matter. It is better to catch a glimpse of an idea than to show everything. Yet you just see what you see, no more no less. I would rather provoke an ungraspable reaction in the mind of my viewers in order to create space for another view on our world. In current times that is focused on showdown and disclosure, matter stays as elusive as the covid virus.

My paintings never work out the way I expected, yet I am never surprised. Painting for me means a haptic interaction of a unique feeling of vulnerability. Beyond manipulation a world unfolds. However, it can dissolve every moment of inattentiveness. This fragile approach can be dis-covered literally by scanning the layers and following the cyclical construction of the painting. So we are entangled in a ‘double bind’: losing yourself in matter, not to get a hold on it, but to understand how you are related to it. One is only authentic in surrendering to what matters. This ambiguous play needs to be executed dead serious in order to free in the intimate interaction with matter the creative forces that allow us to view and experience our world in different ways. *Breaking the Views*: essential painting catches a glimpse of new worlds.

According to me, this is essential painting. But why did I choose to process rust and focus on erosion? Iron is an indispensable element for our body. Iron binds and transports oxygen through our blood vessels. Without iron we will die. The industrial world covers iron under a thick layer of red lead minium so iron and oxygen do not contact, avoiding rust. The very life generating combination of iron and oxygen, is casted away in the industrial world as rusty waste. I want to evoke this ambivalent experience in my corona paintings: how do we handle our so-called waste? The panic that broke out after the covid outbreak is only an exemplary case. The global problematic around the climate crisis has been reduced to a range of one and a half meter