



BELVÉDÈRE
Asset Management

The Belvédère Kunstfenster 2024 presents:

MARIUS STEIGER

8.6.–17.9.2024

KUNSTFENSTER BY BELVÉDÈRE 2024

MARIUS STEIGER

Who would have thought that it would still be necessary to insist that representation and reality differ from one another? This rhetorical question is addressed in *The Scandal of Pleasure* (1996). Even today, almost thirty years later, the deceptive contradictions of art, that theorist Wendy Steiner explores, are just as relevant as they were back then. *The Scandal of Pleasure* reports from the battlefield of contemporary culture, a landscape littered with the remnants of disreputable artworks and discredited ideologies. Acting both as a sign of reality and as an entity in its own right, art deliberately mixes meaning and being. Art seems to convey an extremely intense experience of reality without, however, being directly part of it. Therefore, a distinction must be made between fiction and non-fiction, between the figurative and the literal, between virtuality and reality: “A super-realist canvas [...] may look very much like reality, but it is still a flat surface covered with paint and hence not reality at all.” (Wendy Steiner)

The works of Marius Steiger make it particularly difficult for us to distinguish between reality and illusion: his paintings not only imitate individual motifs and objects, but sometimes even carry their appearance beyond their own borders. In Steiger's artistic practice, one finds both rectangular and shaped canvases: the latter use the spatial conditions as a background, as a spatial surface, to refer to and interact with. Paintings of individual mushrooms, flowers and fruits, planet-like circles and shelves with abstract book spines transform the rooms into supposed phantasmagorias. Taking their deceptive manoeuvre one step further, the paintings of a mirror and several wooden planks do not necessarily abstract the given spaces, but expand them in their supposed functionality. However, the mirror does not reflect and the wooden planks deny us supposed access through already closed door frames. Starting with individual depictions, Steiger transforms the ground floor into a kind of “holistic still life”: the individual images are just as important as the big picture. In one of the conference rooms, there are perhaps more classical-looking, rectangular paintings. However, the compositions, which also include flowers and fruits, do not seem as motionless and “morte” as the historical genre of still life largely defines itself. In the immaculate perfection and fragmentation of Steiger's works, they rather reveal their artificiality and their origin in the digital world.

The various works play with our expectations of their depicted characteristics and spatial references. Marius Steiger repeatedly refers to reality by reassembling it. He creates an illusory world in which deception and fact are particularly closely intertwined. This very balancing act between reality and artificiality is an essential part of the experience of art, as it is in our constantly changing, technologically savvy present. Representation and reality may be different, but we still have real reactions to unreal events.

Marlene Bürgi
Art Historian

MARIUS STEIGER (*1999 BERN) LIVES AND WORKS IN LONDON

Education

- 2022 MA Painting, Royal College of Art, London, United Kingdom
- 2015 Visual Communication, Schule für Gestaltung SfGBB, Biel, Switzerland

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2024 *Day*, Galleri Opdahl, Stavanger, Norway
- 2023 *Sun shines, Money falls*, Blue Velvet, Zurich, Switzerland
- 2022 *Lust for Life*, Incubator, London, United Kingdom

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2024 Upcoming: Secci Gallery, Pietrasanta, Italy
- 2023 *Banana Branches*, Lamb Gallery, London, United Kingdom
May your dream come, Kunsthalle Palazzo, Liestal, Basel, Switzerland
- 2022 *Ohne Titel*, Museum zu Allerheiligen, Schaffhausen, Switzerland
Cantonale, Stadtgalerie, Bern, Switzerland
Aeschlimann Corti, Kunsthau Langenthal, Langenthal, Switzerland
Impression, Kunsthau Grenchen, Grenchen, Switzerland
- 2021 *Cantonale*, Kunsthau Pasquart, Biel, Switzerland
Down the hills, Blue Velvet, Zurich, Switzerland

Selected Awards & Grants

- 2022 Scholarship, Patronagefonds für junge Schweizer Künstler*innen, Basel, Switzerland
- 2021 Work grant, Burgergemeinde Bern, Bern, Switzerland
Work grant, Kanton Bern, Bern, Switzerland
- 2020 Promotion award, Berner Design Stiftung, Bern, Switzerland

Public Collections

- Art collection of the City of Zürich, Zurich, Switzerland
- Swiss National Library, Bern, Switzerland
- Art collection of the Canton of Bern, Bern, Switzerland

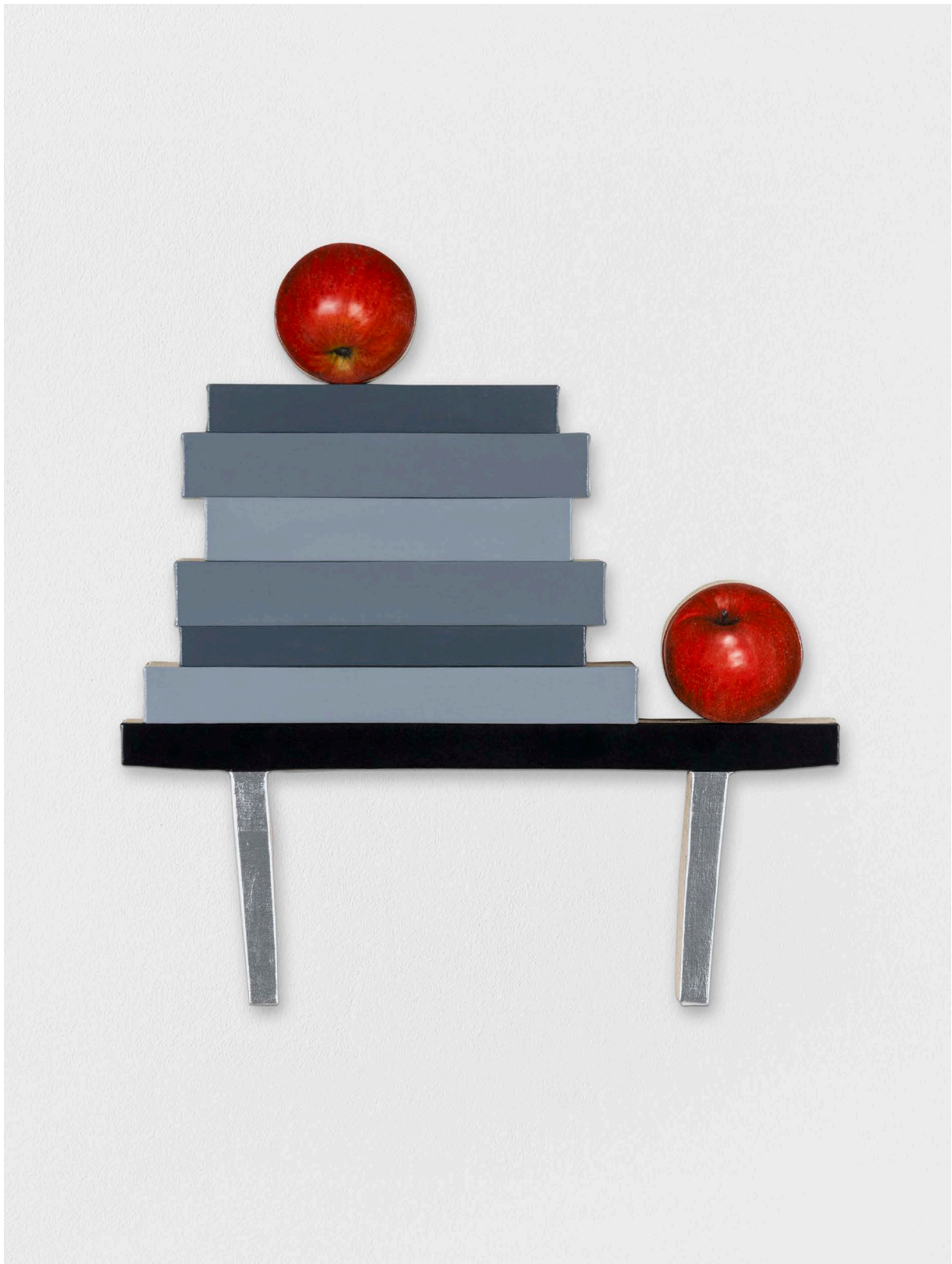
Links

- mariussteiger.com
- [instagram.com/2.marius](https://www.instagram.com/2.marius)
- bluevelvetprojects.com/marius-steiger





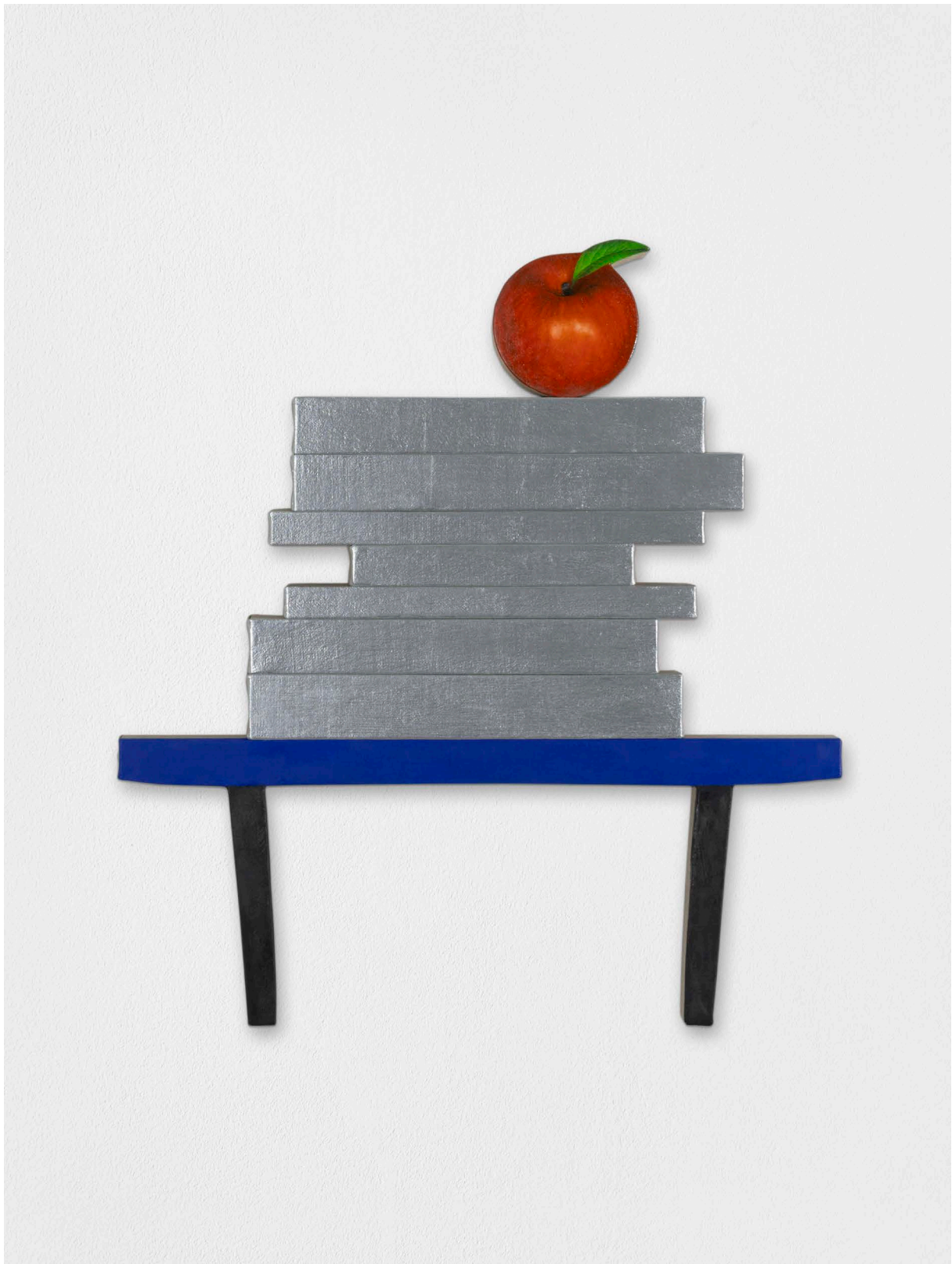




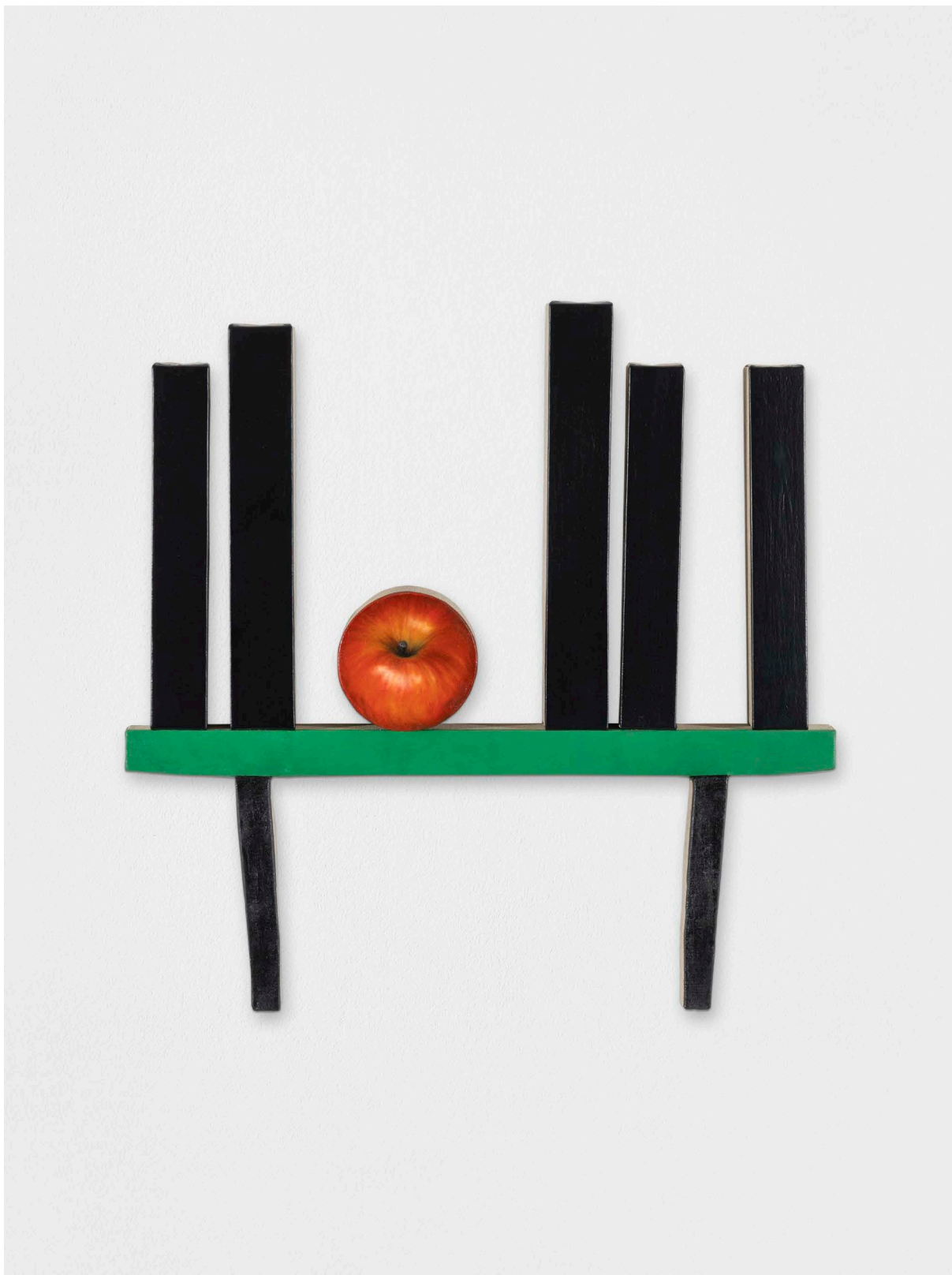
Marius Steiger
Shelf (Two Red Apples), 2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
48 × 45 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Shelf (Two Leaves), 2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
43 × 45 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Shelf (Red Apple with Leaf), 2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
50 × 45 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Shelf (Skyscrapers), 2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
46 × 45 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Shelf (Archive of Anarchy), 2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
45 × 45 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Shelf (Orchid), 2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
28 × 45 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Shelf, 2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
45 × 45 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Shelf (Red Apple), 2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
30 x 34 x 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Shelf (Banana), 2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
24 x 34 x 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Shelf, 2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
24 x 28 x 4.5 cm



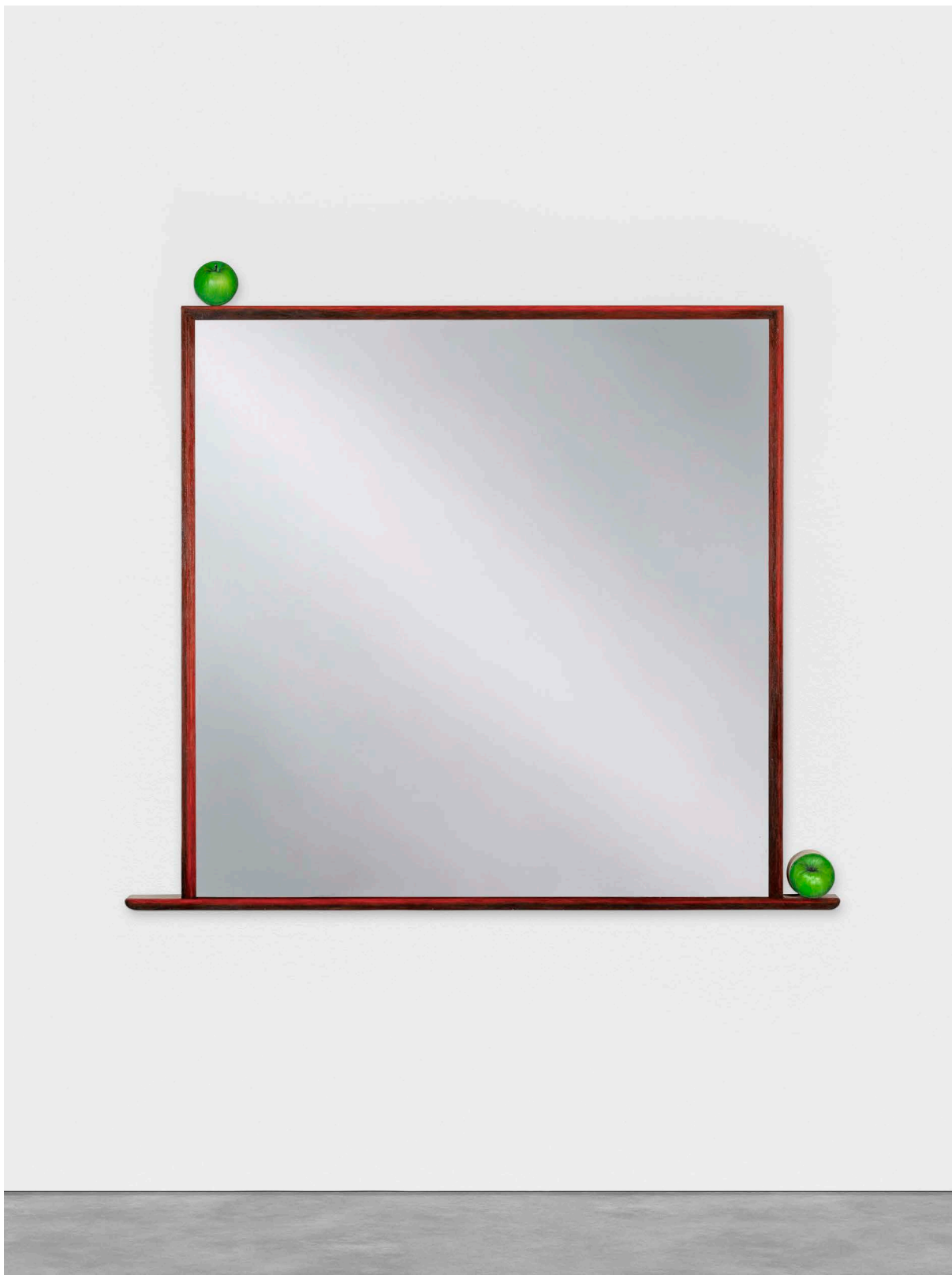
Marius Steiger
Shelf (Chart), 2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
50 × 120 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Wood (Four Planks), 2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
106 × 205 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Wood (Three Planks), 2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
145 × 205 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Mirror (Two Green Apples), 2024
Oil and acrylic on linen
128 × 140 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Still Life (Toys, Fruits, Blossoms, Hearts, Butterfly and Spheres), 2023
Oil and acrylic on linen
200 × 155 × 4.5 cm



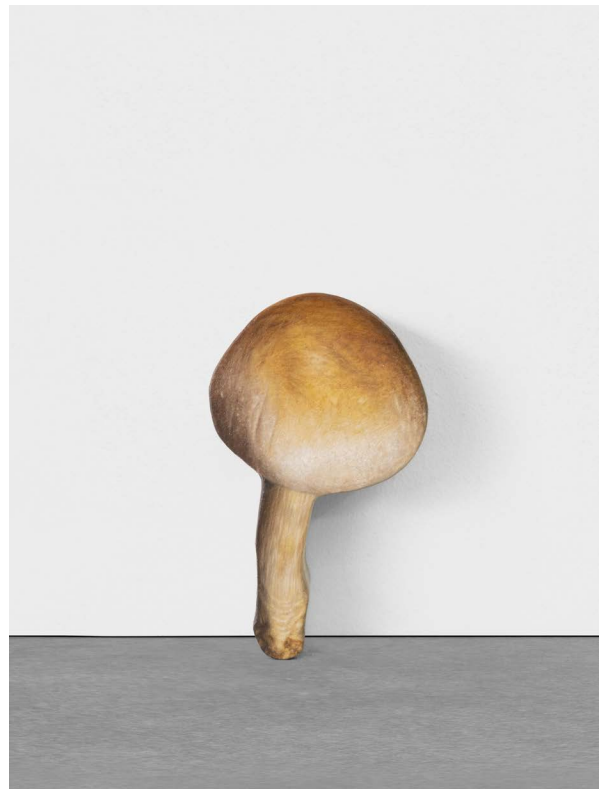
Marius Steiger
Apple, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 9 × 9 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Mushroom, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 14 × 12 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Mushroom, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 18 × 10 × 4.5 cm



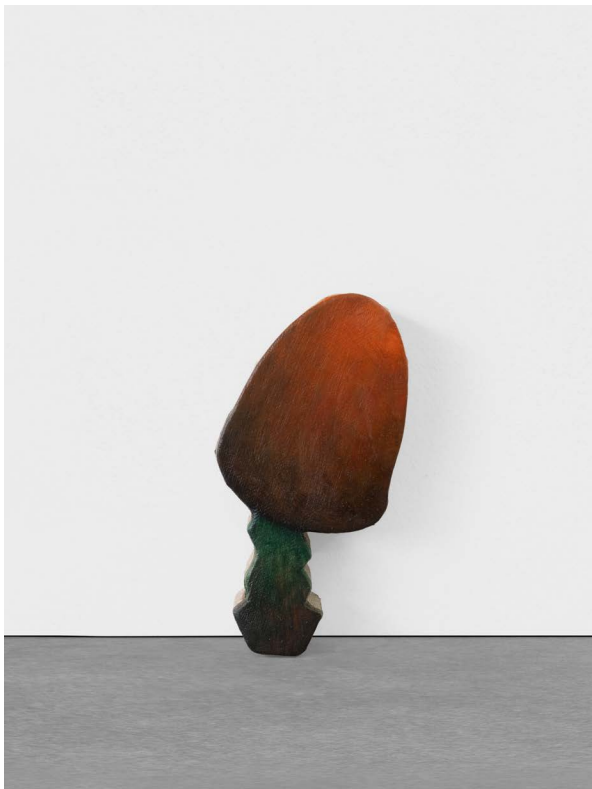
Marius Steiger
Mushroom, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 16 × 9.5 × 4.5 cm



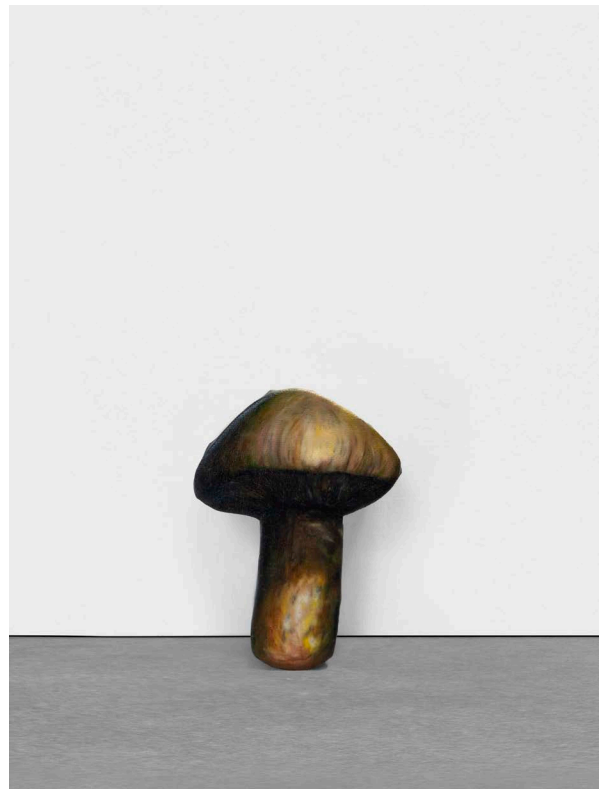
Marius Steiger
Mushroom, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 15 × 9.5 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Mushroom, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 19 × 16.5 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Mushroom, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 16 × 8 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Mushroom, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 12.5 × 9 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Mushroom, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 13 × 12.5 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Mushroom, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 17 × 18 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Mushroom, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 12 × 10 × 4.5 cm



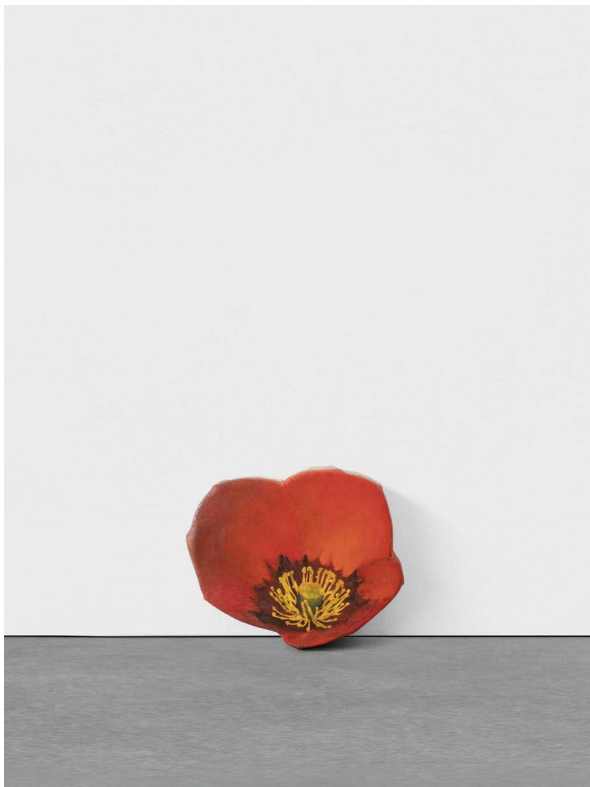
Marius Steiger
Mushroom, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 14.5 × 13.5 × 4.5 cm



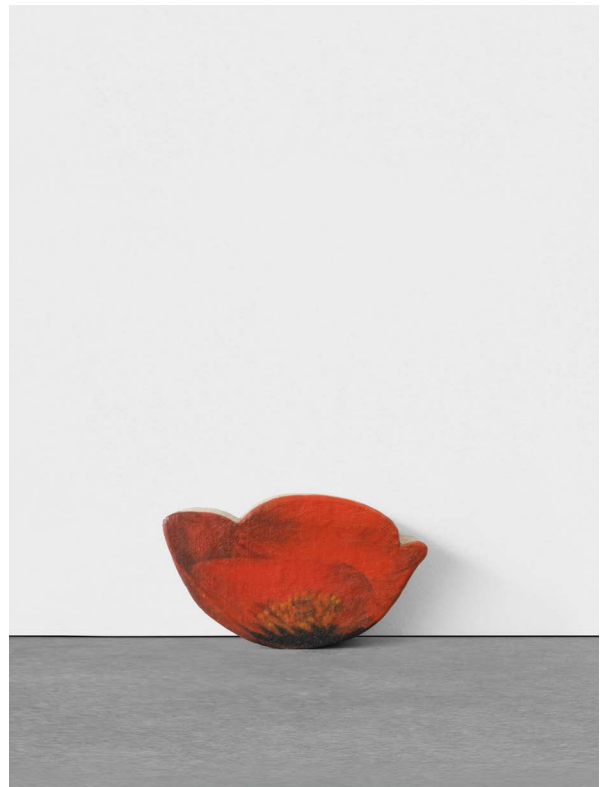
Marius Steiger
Mushroom, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 14 × 13 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Mushroom, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 13.5 × 12 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Flower, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 8 × 9 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Flower, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 6.5 × 11 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Two Mushrooms, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 20 × 19.5 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Mushroom, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 24.5 × 12 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Flower, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 10 × 49 × 4.5 cm



Marius Steiger
Two Mushrooms, 2024
 Oil and acrylic on linen
 30.5 × 18 × 4.5 cm

IMPRINT

Belvédère Asset Management AG

As one of Switzerland's largest independent providers of wealth management and family office services, we have stood for expertise and continuity for over 23 years. We specialise in complex financial and advisory services for international and Swiss private and corporate clients as well as families.

Mutual trust, open communication and comprehensive expertise – these are the pillars on which our success is based. Asset management is a matter of trust and fulfils its purpose when the client feels understood. Our broad network of banks, law firms and financial specialists, as well as state-of-the-art information sources, help us to ensure that we always have in-depth knowledge of the local and global political and economic conditions that determine market developments.

Belvédère Asset Management AG: Fascination for people – Enthusiasm for the markets.

Blue Velvet AG

Blue Velvet presents an artistic program formed by intriguing and radical aesthetics that often comment on paradoxical, obscure or capricious aspects of contemporary culture. We love delicate, playful or intricate art, but we also believe in clear, bold statements. We also understand art as a vehicle for human interaction and an alternative research instrument to understand the complexities of our being.

The gallery, founded in 2021 by Pier Stuker, currently represents ten artists: Chryssa (estate), Adam Cruces, KAITO Itsuki, Julian-Jakob Kneer, Marie Matusz, Monica Mays, PRICE, Sibylle Ruppert (estate), Marius Steiger and Anne de Vries.

