

## **Amit Cabessa**

### **Nothing Personal**

30.4.2015 – 13.6.2015

The exhibition 'Nothing Personal' features a selection of paintings by Amit Cabessa from a new body of work created over the past year. In search of the element underlying the action of painting, Cabessa moves away from figuration in favor of a more open-ended composition, enabling him to explore the same essence. He describes this period of work as a return to the origin of the painterly action, and a search for elements liberated from the accomplishment of representation.

The gradual withdrawal from the familial narrative in Cabessa's works has led to a new formal language, which is given expression in two types of works: ones with delicate contours and a restricted palette, alongside colorful, intensive, highly condensed paintings. In this manner, Cabessa attempts to distill the image to nothing more than a round, sometimes broken outline, which at first glance resembles a monumental flower. At the same time, an examination of the entire range of amorphous images in this exhibition may call to mind a basic biological structure, which multiplies and expands through space.

The tension between wild and meticulous elements in Cabessa's paintings offers a key for examining his works over time. In his early works, the wild dimension is evident in the dynamic brushstrokes and colors, while the more restrained aspect of his work is made visible by the compositional structure. In the current exhibition, Cabessa's departure from figuration gives rise to a different type of composition, which undoes the distinction between open and closed forms. As he describes it, whereas the earlier landscapes and familial, everyday imagery were mediated by a process of self-searching, the recent works strive to define basic underlying forms and a single expressive mode – shaped by the slow and calculated removal of exterior layers to reach a calmer place.

Ofra Harnam