

Florian Süssmayr

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The new works of Florian Süssmayr (born in Munich in 1963) show close-ups and still-lives from the world of the metropolis. He zooms our gaze onto details of interiors. At such short range, curtains, tiles and tablecloths become ornaments in their own right. It is as though we, the viewers, are seeing objects through an intoxicated gaze that stubbornly stays put on them until they metamorphose and begin a life of their own. Süssmayr reduces the motif until all one can recognize is an ornament on the two-dimensional canvas, its painterliness taking precedence before all else. Record players, bottles and ashtrays are the objects that stand for a lifestyle in which nightlife and loneliness have an important part to play. Subdued colours, contrasts of light and shade, spatial composition and diffused lighting are the means by which Süssmayr seeks to reach the essence of painting.