REPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE

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JEAN VAN HAMME Bédéiste sans frontières

> DAN DEACON Geen hits, wel de fun

## VINCENT LINDON Dilemmes au supermarché

RACHMANINOV TROIKA FRANÇOISE BERLANGER METZ ALEJANDRO CARTAGENA PRIMUS JENNY HVAL

The kidzzzzz are alright

SUPERVLIEG SUPERMOUCHE

## REVIEWED

**EXPO** 



© JOËLLE DELHOVREN

## WHAT YOU DON'T SEE

EN | Move along, nothing to see here! The work of Joëlle Delhovren shows a glimpse of what is unmistakably and irrefutably absent. KURT SHOEKX

here is an exciting dialogue between the scenes on shaded, weathered canvasses and the drawings on recycled paper by Brussels-based artist Joëlle Delhovren. Those two interrelated and entirely equal components of her figurative oeuvre are a tribute to the narrative range of art and to the spark that it can ignite in the viewer, taking him or her far beyond the empirical motto "what you see is what you get". You are constantly hurled from small, intimate, occasionally oppressive slices of life, tableaux that might have been plucked straight out of family photo albums, to stories that, drenched in the hazy glow of memories, take on terrifying proportions. You see the intimacy of fiddling hands, which by turns carelessly or very purposefully stroke, keep at distance, invite, embrace, and touch, or you feel the incontrovertible allure of something that makes crowds stare gloomily into the skies, or individuals look down from a great height, like gods, rising above events, pulling some strings, and looking down at what exactly is going on.

And there is always something going on in Joëlle Delhovren's work, there is always something at hand, about to happen, or happening right there and then, but out of sight, in the margins

of what the painter wishes to show us. These paintings often do not focus on the overexposed heart of the small or larger, personal or social histories that seem to be depicted, but on the people undergoing those histories or manipulating the events. In short, nothing is what it seems, and often it is what cannot be seen that bellows continually and threateningly in the shadowy background. Like a glimpse you catch of something that is only present through its unmistakable and irrefutable absence.

On Joëlle Delhovren's canvasses, the world becomes a stage, a play of minor and major manipulations, and we stand in the wings: around the periphery, the place that escapes everyone's notice, but where reflection, thought, and feeling can most clearly be understood. The place too where the artist completes her own act of creation, forms the stories that she shows the way it suits her, which she manipulates for effect, for the confusion and layers it might cause, and for the sake of beauty itself. Stick around, there's nothing to see here.

## JOËLLE DELHOVREN •••••

28/6, QUI Gallery, www.quigallery.com