



Unsung Heroes, various techniques and dimensions

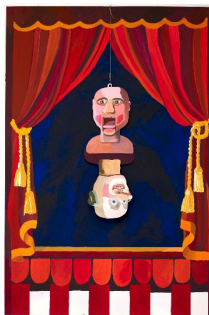
***Dolls play leading role in first solo exhibition Erik
Mattijssen at Galerie Fleur & Wouter***

Paper Moon

10 February - 3 March

In Erik Mattijssen's -now forty-year-old- oeuvre, you won't come across many people. Once there was one floating in a kitchen, hanging on strings, and there was a man dressed on horseback. But as derivatives, portrayed as dolls, they are there. In this exhibition, Erik Mattijssen's first at Galerie Fleur & Wouter in Amsterdam, they play a starring role.

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Full Moon, 2024 | Topsy Turvy Two, 2024 | Botanical Beauty, 2024

The gallery features a group of works originating from the Stadtmuseum München, where an entire floor is dedicated to the history of the Bavarian Puppet Theatre. A walhalla for

the artist. Hundreds of puppet theatre figures, puppets, heads, sets and entire theatres are on display.

Mattijssen uses these theatre figures to depict moods, differently and more directly than in his works of objects, but with the same sense of melancholy. The emphasis in the exhibition is on theatrical spaces where the cardboard, flat dolls seem to be waiting neatly for their turn.

Like most of the subjects Mattijssen touches on, in this series nothing is what it seems. Foodstuffs are not there to sink your teeth into, flowers are clearly not real, they seem more like props like those found in a theatre performance. Mattijssen gathers his images together. Sometimes this leads to an elaborate still life, sometimes to an elaborate interior. They are scenes that stir the imagination, and come to life if you believe in them.

Say, it's only a paper moon
Sailing over a cardboard sea
But it wouldn't be make-believe
If you believed in me

Arlen, Harburg en Rose, It's only a paper moon

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Erik Mattijssen | Paper Moon

10 February - 3 March

Galerie Fleur & Wouter

[Van Ostadestraat 43a, Amsterdam](#)

Thursday - Sunday, 12.00 - 18.00

by appointment

Contact

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Hinterzimmer, 2021, gouache, pencil and sisal rope, 242 x 202 cm