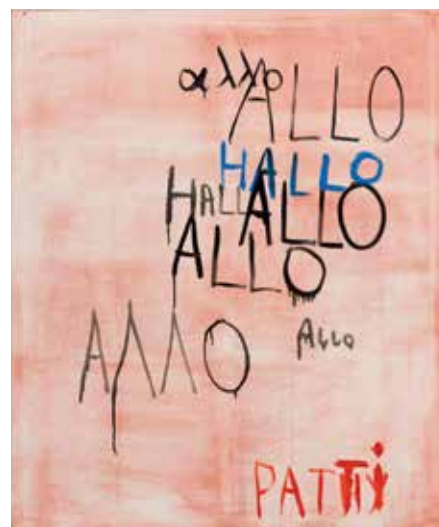




© Walter Swennen



© Walter Swennen



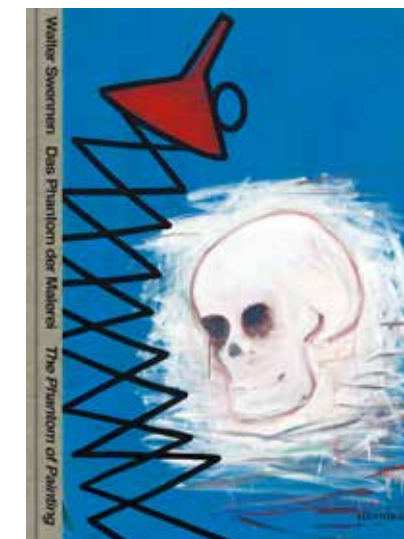
© Walter Swennen

Das Phantom der Malerei / The Phantom of Painting

WALTER SWENNEN

Walter Swennen is a painter, born in Brussels in 1946. Like others of his generation, he approaches and explores the medium in new ways by applying principles from other disciplines.

Swennen's work constantly challenges the viewer. His paintings demand slow and careful inspection. The layers of paint often hide a veritable battlefield of attempts, corrections, words and messages. His Dutch-speaking family suddenly began speaking French when he was five years old, and language games accordingly form an integral part of his art. A painting by Walter Swennen is not just a result, but also a process, which allows us to trace the path taken by the artist to achieve the ultimate 'visible' image. A key constant is the pleasure he derives from the battle with the paint. Non-conformist that he is, Swennen paints on anything: from canvas to wood to discarded camping tables, stoves and even washing machines.



4

5

Walter Swennen's long and varied career deserves to be recognised by a wide public for its radical nonconformism and the influence that the artist still exerts on young artists today. Swennen is represented by the Brussels Xavier Hufkens Gallery and the Gladstone Gallery in New York, and won the prestigious Ultima award for lifetime services to the visual arts in 2019. His work can be found in numerous museum and gallery collections.

This book offers a wonderful overview of his oeuvre and is the catalogue to an international solo exhibition which launches in Kunstmuseum Bonn (June-August 2021) before travelling to Kunstmuseum Den Haag (autumn 2021) and Kunstmuseum Winterthur (spring 2022).

With textual contributions from Daniel Koep, Konrad Bitterli and Stephan Berg.

*Publication accompanying
the great retrospective of
the artist Walter Swennen*

Start of sales
June 2021

Number of pages
approx. 176

Retail price
€39.95

Finish
Hardcover with
linen binding

Format
32 x 24.5 cm

Bilingual edition German-English
ISBN 978 94 6388 764 9



9 789463 887649