

*Untitled #12*

acrylic on linen, 190 x 190 cm, 2017

Galerie Dix9 is pleased to present

# SAMPLES OF THE LIQUID BOOK

## Nemanja Nikolic

From March 23 to May 13, 2017

**GALERIE DIX9** Hélène Lacharmoise

19, rue des Filles du Calvaire 75003 Paris - M° Filles du Calvaire

Tuesday-Friday: 2pm-7pm, Saturday 11am-7pm and upon appointment

Tél : +33 (0)1 42 78 91 77

website : [www.galeriedix9.com](http://www.galeriedix9.com)

# SAMPLES OF THE LIQUID BOOK

**For his first solo exhibition in France, Nemanja Nikolic presents his most recent paintings. As in all of his works, these canvases of apparent simplicity are part of a complex process and thus open up a multiplicity of readings. Just like his drawings and animated videos \*, they are the result of both a very conceptual approach and a great technicity.**

The first works were marked by an intensive experimentation with the expressive potential of classical drawings, which drew the artist into more complex visualizations inspired by the language of moving image. A conceptual approach that seems almost natural when one knows the fascination of the artist for the seventh art - which is one of the specificities of his artistic approach.

His recent series of paintings open up a new field of artistic challenges. They stand between abstract and narrative, based on the singular relation of the elements between them. The references to cinema, art history or pop culture are now contemplated using a different method, by deconstructing, breaking down and visually analyzing the relationships of color and form, sensory perception and intuition. The artist's choice of abstract, stylized and geometrical forms as new motifs is inspired by early abstract and experimental films, such as "Rhythmus 21" by Hans Richter, by the first experiments with moving image such as "Anemic cinema" by Marcel Duchamp or more recent such as the intro of "Psycho" by Hitchcock.

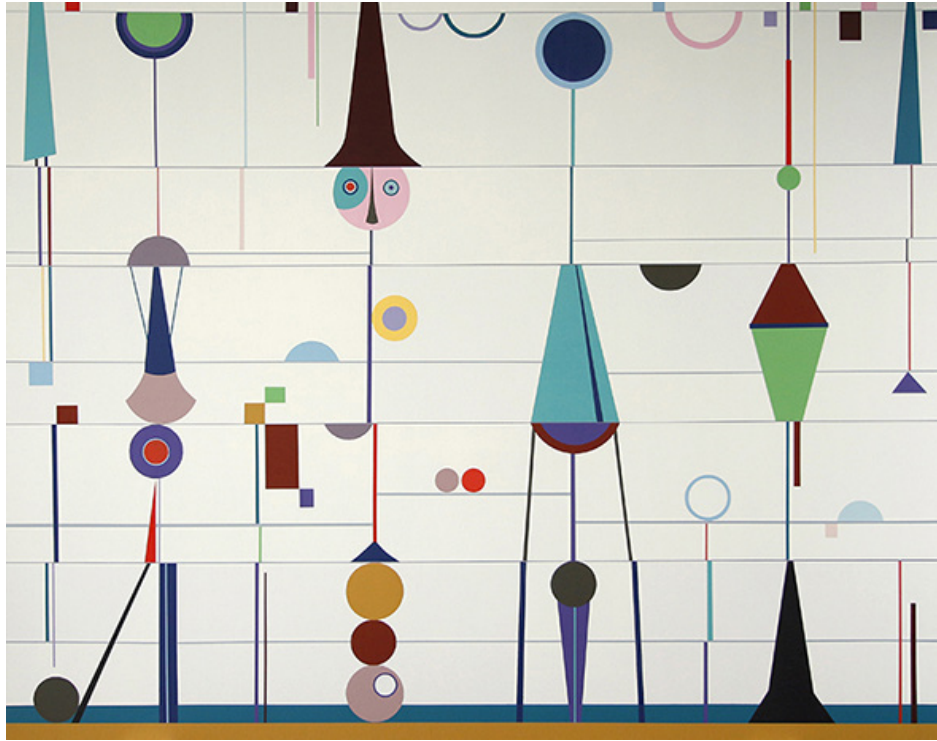
The final work may appear quite abstract but has to be seen as a narrative. The stripes paintings (*Untitled*) are indeed just semi abstract. They refer to film narrative presented through colors and stripes - like doing cinema editing with only colors and giving a sense of time and rhythm without sound or characters. The *Vertigo* series are very similar, only the artist uses spiral form to present how cinema 'swallow us' while observing it.

In the third series (*Untitled*), appear some characters who are connected with the artist's fascination as a child for scarecrow in the fields. Both scaring and comic, those figures testimony the creativity of farmers, using a bucket for water instead of head, broom instead of hands, old rake instead of legs - like human figures made from different parts of still life. Nikolic started then drawing his figures using various geometrical elements that can be connected with mechanical or still life. Their stylization refer to the Bauhaus, like Paul Klee's drawings.

In his very last paintings (*Untitled*), Nikolic deliberately abandoned the representations of figures in order to concentrate only on geometric shapes and the relations of shapes and colors, accentuating a rhythm effect close to a music score.

Such approach of painting was qualified by the art critic Velimir Popović as "samples of the Liquid Book", referring to that series of experimental digital books published under the conditions of both open editing and free content.

\* *Panic Book*, drawings and video animation presented in 2016 by Galerie Dix9 at Drawing Now Paris and in the exhibition *Book Memories*



Untitled #1, 250 x 200 cm, acrylic on linen, 2016



Untitled #4, acrylic on canvas, 190x190cm, 2016



Vertigo #2, 120 x 120 cm, 2016

# BIOGRAPHIE

**Born in 1987 in Serbia**  
**Lives and works in Belgrade**

## EDUCATION

Graduate from the Faculty of Fine Arts, department painting, Belgrade (2010)  
Currently a student of Doctoral art studies, Faculty of Fine Arts, Belgrade  
Initiator of U10 Art Space, Belgrade

## AWARDS

Special award for mural and wall installation, New Wall contest, Raiffeisen Bank and gallery 12HUB (2013)  
Award for drawing, Fond Vladimir Veličković (2011)  
Award for personal creative innovation from Fond Milos Baić (2009)  
Award for drawing (2009 and 2007)

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

### 2017

*Samples of the Liquid Book*, Galerie Dix9, Paris  
Volta New York, presented by Galerie Dix9

### 2016

Untitled Miami, presented by Galerie Dix9

### 2015

*New Paintings*, U10 Art Space, Belgrade  
*Instead of the Ending*, The Art Gallery, Belgrade

### 2012

*Visible Things*, U10 Art Space, Belgrade  
Exhibition of the laureat, Vladimir Velickovic Fund, Gallery Chaos, Belgrade

### 2010

*All around us*, New Gallery, Belgrade  
Goethe Institut Belgrade  
*NNN+P, StepOut 4* (with Nemanja Petrovic), Gallery MKM 4, Belgrade

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

### 2017

*Art and Film, 120 years of exchange*, curator Dominique Païni, CaixaForum Madrid, Spain  
*Bookswatcher*, curator Ronit Eden, Public space, Amsterdam, NL  
*Drawing Now Paris*, presented by Galerie Dix9  
Rencontres Internationales Paris-Berlin

### 2016

*Art and Film, 120 years of exchange*, curator Dominique Païni, CaixaForum Barcelona, Spain  
Art Market Budapest, presented by Galerie Dix9  
*RoMANTisch*, curators Stella Bach & Claudia Maria, Künstlerhaus, Vienna, Austria  
*Plaisir d'amour*, 56th October Salon, curator David Elliott, Belgrade  
*Liber numericus*, Stereolux Nantes, France  
*Panic Book*, cultural center SKC, Kragujevac, Serbia

*Book memories*, Galerie Dix9 Paris

*Drawing Now*, artist in focus, Galerie Dix9  
Hélène Lacharmoise, Paris

### 2015

Parallel, U10 Art Space invité, Vienna, Austria  
*Constellation*, Serbian Cultural Center, Paris, curator Svetlana Mantua  
LISTE art fair, U10 Art Space invited, Basel

### 2013/2014

*Ex-ordinary, No Borders No Nation*, City gallery Collegium Artisticum, Sarajevo - U10 Art Space, Belgrade - Center for Contemporary Art Montenegro, Podgorica

### 2013.

*New Wall*, 12Hub Gallery, Belgrade  
Mixer Festival, Thrill in Movement, About and Around Curating, Belgrade  
*From – to*, MKM4, Belgrade  
*Hard to be... Within the Time*, curator Biljana Tomic, Geozavod, Belgrade

### 2012

*Bound* (curators Sofia Touboura, Maria Lianou, Nana Sachini), Open Show studio, Athènes, Grèce  
*The Most Beautiful Building* (curateurs Ana Adamovic et Milica Pekic), Mikser Festival, Belgrade  
*What I Do*, Gallery MKM4, Belgrade  
*Skup 3*, New Gallery, Belgrade

### 2011

*Transform in Art Education*, National Art Academy, Sofia, Bulgariia  
*Autoskopija II*, Gallery of Univerity Library „Svetozar Markovic“, Belgrade  
*Skup II*, New Gallery, Belgrade  
*Drawings*, curator Dejan Grba, Goethe-Institut, Belgrade  
*Photo - Robot*, Gallery of Student's town, Belgrade  
*Through drawing*, curator Miroslav Karic, Gallery MKM 4, Belgrade

### 2010

*C2*, curator Dejan Grba, Gallery of Student's town, Belgrade  
*Skup*, New Gallery, Belgrade  
*Views*, Gallery '73, Belgrade

### 2009

15th Biennale of the Serbian Student Drawings, Belgrade  
Awarded works of Faculty of Fine Arts, Belgrade  
9th Biennale of drawing, Belgrade  
*Drawing*, curator Dejan Grba, gallery of Student's town, Belgrade

### 2007

14th Biennale of the Serbian Student Drawings, Belgrade  
Awarded works of the Faculty of Fine Arts, Belgrade