MICHAELA YOUNGE
RHYS COREN

23.7. – 15.8.2026
opening: thursday, 23.7., 5 – 8pm

gegenüber
(this fear of emptiness)

EIGEN + ART Lab

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All human nature vigorously resists grace because grace changes us and the change is painful.
- Flannery O'Conner

Sometimes, you recognize truth because it destroys you for a bit.
- Akwaeke Emezi *Freshwater*

To be truly radical is to make hope possible rather than despair convincing.
- Raymond Williams *Ressources of Hope*

Driving down on a a fall afternoon into the quiet centre of things.
- Lazar Berman *The Double Bell of Heat*

I want to put you in a vase so you stay fresh, but I've wondered off, and now nobody knows where I am.
- Maren Kames *Luna Luna*

Beauty is that which deviates from the norm.
- Hans Werner Henze

It's easy to tell the dirtiest minds—look for the cleanest fingernails.
-Ottessa Moshfegh *Eileen*

What is at stake in the current enthusiasm for participatory art is nothing less than the the social contract itself.
- Claire Bishop *Artificial Hells*

The world is an illusion, and living is dreaming, I muttered. Yet blood runs and tears gush forth.
- Han Kang *Greek Lessons*

Reality is like a stoned pimp on a night of thunderstorms.
- Roberto Bolaño *2666*

And they've dragged me into this fucking schizo-culture, snarling and spitting and walking around on curled knuckles.
- David Wojnarowicz *The Waterfront Journals*

Hardly anyone judges when a girl goes her own way. Believe me, boy, heavy lies the head that wears the Birkin.
- Kitschkrieg feat. Blumengarten & Shirin David *Gut Genug*

Stones. Even my eyes. Stones, even the damp air. Stones, my cry; rocks, my mouth.
- Badr Shakir as-Sayyab *Weil ich fremd bin*

Is there any such thing as a brain that hasn't been brainwashed? If anything, it's easier to go insane in the way best suited for your world.
- Sayaka Murata *Vanishing World*

It comes as a relief when our romantic relationships reconfigure around regressive ideas about gender.
- Anika Jade Levy *Flat Earth*

Beauty was not everything. Beauty had this penalty — it came too readily, came too completely. It stilled life — froze it.
- Virginia Woolf *To The Lighthouse*

I stayed quiet and took my time over a cigarette, watching him coming and going, this way and that, knowing he was wasting his time, that he would come back, tired and thirsty, not having found the gates of heaven, among all that smoke and all those people.
- Julio Cortàzar *Las puertas del cielo*

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Michaela Younge is a Cape Town-based contemporary artist whose practice centres on textile and felt works that combine meticulous craftsmanship with humour, folklore, and psychological narrative. Using hand-felted wool, she creates richly detailed scenes populated by human, animal, and hybrid figures that explore themes of memory, power, vulnerability, and the complexities of everyday life. Her work draws on storytelling traditions, domestic craft, and surreal imagery to examine the tensions between tenderness and violence, intimacy and absurdity. Younge graduated from the Michaelis School of Fine Art at the University of Cape Town in 2015 and has exhibited widely in South Africa and internationally, with her work held in several prominent private and institutional collections.

Rhys Coren is a London-based artist working across collage, painting, animation, sculpture and public art. His practice explores rhythm, colour and material through works that draw on architecture, music, language and everyday culture. Alongside exhibitions in the UK and internationally, he has completed major public commissions including large-scale terrazzo and stone installations for the Bond Street Crossrail and One Exchange next to Liverpool Street station

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