

BILL BILLEKVIST: INTERNATIONAL TOPLAC PLUS

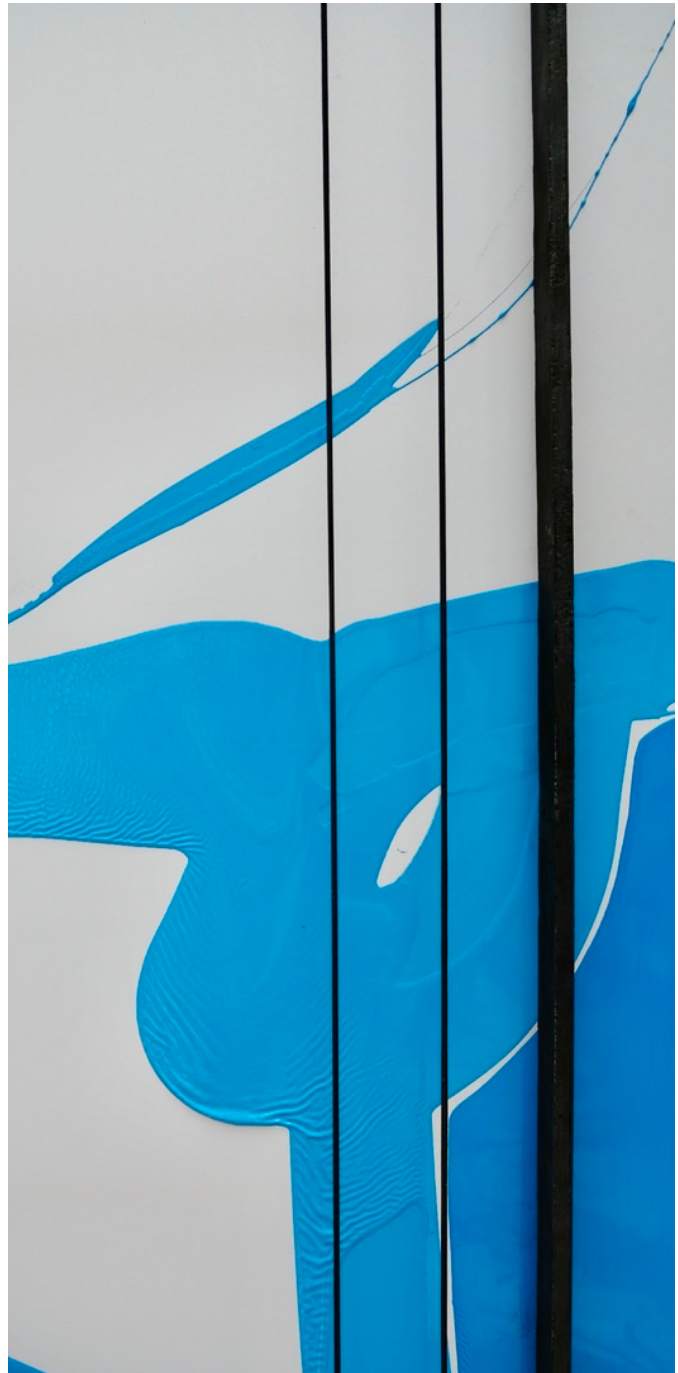
Burned bend wood, simplicity, exaggeration, and premium boat varnish. Bill wants to put the invisible craftsmanship of the preparation of a painting in focus. With his newest artworks he is exploring how to define the front and back of a painting.

In these works, he has been exploring framing, fabrics, textile details and **International Toplac Plus**, which is a high-gloss premium paint for all boat building materials above the waterline. It contains UV filters for increased durability.

The paintings aim toward sculptures. It is a composition of a clear grasp of International Toplac Plus on a polyester fabric, on top of the canvas there is a bended steamed frame installed with elastic string from a clothing detail.

Billekvist wants to highlight the function and construction of the frame and create new patterns within the square frame.

Where most paintings begin: before there is an image, often before there even is an idea. By choosing materials and technique, the conditions for the works change, the focus on painting can be experienced as a sculptural craftsmanship.



von Racknitz + Baer Gallery



BIOGRAPHY

Joel Billekvist (b. 1992, Sweden) is based in Oslo and graduated 2022 from the Oslo Academy of Fine Arts. In 2021/ 2022, he has exhibited at Podium, Kösk, Hos Arne and Coullisse Gallery. In his current praxis, Billekvist is exploring how to define the front and back of a painting. Materials such as high-tech ripstop and transparent textiles are used as an unconventional canvas.

His interest in exploring the framing and textiles as part of the manifestation of a painting as a physical object has emerged through projects such as *Soft on Soft*, where Billekvist worked with soft oil chalk on transparent netting. The permeability of the material allows the viewer to see the contours of the stenter frame like a skeleton under thin skin.

The works thus challenge the boundary between front and back and transcend the two-dimensionality of painting as a medium.

About Von Racknitz + Baer Gallery

VRB Gallery positions itself as an intermediate between the established art market and Berlin's creative community of emerging artists, curators and collectors who consciously question and redefine how art interacts with and is embedded in our rapidly evolving world.

With its location in Berlin Kreuzberg, VRB Gallery offers a space for art as a collective intervention and shared experience in various cultural contexts.

CATALOG



INTERNATIONAL TOPLAC PLUS, 2023

Toplac on samba, steamed and burned
Norwegian pinewood, elastic strings, angle
iron, 186,5 x 161,5 cm

5.000,00 EUR excl. VAT

5.950,00 EUR incl. VAT



INTERNATIONAL TOPLAC PLUS 2, 2023

Toplac on samba, steamed and burned
Norwegian pinewood, elastic strings, angle
iron, 182,5 x 161 cm

5.000,00 EUR excl. VAT

5.950,00 EUR incl. VAT

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INTERNATIONAL TOPLAC PLUS 3, 2023

Toplac on samba, steamed and burned
Norwegian pinewood, elastic strings, angle
iron, 182,5 x 161 cm

5.000,00 EUR excl. VAT

5.950,00 EUR incl. VAT



RIPSTOPCOVER, 2023

Toplac, oil, soft wax on Rip Stop, 170 x 144,5 cm
4.000,00 EUR excl. VAT

4.760,00 EUR incl. VAT

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TOP COVER UP/ IT'S A LOOP, 2023

Toplac, oil, soft wax on samba, 173 x 146 cm

4.000,00 EUR excl. VAT

4.760,00 EUR incl. VAT



RIPSTOP COVER UP 1/2, 2023

Toplac, oil, soft wax on ripstop

169x146cm

4.000,00 EUR excl. VAT

4.760,00 EUR incl. VAT

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LITERS OF BREEZERS, 2021

Oil, aerosol paint on samba, 200x140 cm

5.000,00 EUR excl. VAT

5.950,00 EUR incl. VAT



SOFT ON SOFT, 2021

Oil, acrylic, soft wax, print ink on mesh,

175 x 145 cm

4.000,00 EUR excl. VAT

4.7600,00 EUR incl. VAT

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