

KARIN SABINE KROMMES

Reign





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Reign

21 June - 13 July 2012

WATERHOUSE & DODD

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We are grateful for the support shown to the artist by the Ministry of Culture, Luxembourg.

This publication illustrates a selection of works to be presented at the forthcoming exhibition.

All available works may be viewed online at www.waterhousedodd.com/karin-krommes

and are available for purchase on receipt of this catalogue.

Foreword

One could be forgiven for misunderstanding the title of this exhibition given that 2012 is the Diamond Jubilee year in Britain. As is often the case with Karin's work however, all is not quite what it seems. Her paintings, ever more accomplished in their finish, display an ambiguity both with their titles and their compositions.

The *Reign* works consist, to put it literally, of a series of paintings of ejector seats. Of course, the aeronautical theme is one familiar to those of us who have followed Karin's career over the last few years. However, the title gives these chairs an extra dimension by immediately contextualising the subject. It gives the chairs a grandeur and history beyond their basic form and purpose.

That these paintings are diptychs further adds to the allusion. A pair of seats can become anthropomorphised into a pair of portraits, a marriage portrait perhaps. The paintings fit into a pictorial tradition that stretches back to the great Renaissance court portraits of Piero della Francesca, not least his *Double Portrait of Federico da Montefeltro and his wife Battista Sforza* (Uffizi, Florence). Karin's regal marriage portrait is far removed from the swagger of the Court. The chairs hint at a battle and at an act of survival. Removed of the sleek fuselage of the jet plane - the gilded pomp of the Court if one wishes to extend the metaphor - these paintings become more human, more sensitive and even more fragile.



Detail of *Reign IV*; illustrated p.19



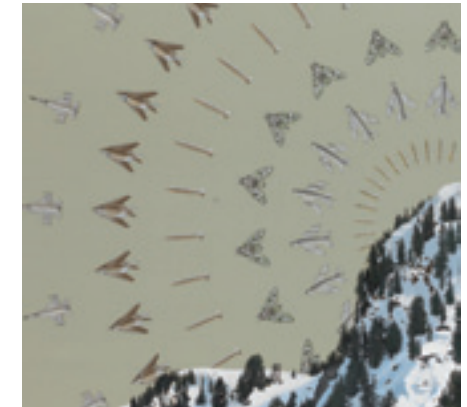
At other points in the exhibition we are given further glimpses of the dark humour that underpins much of Karin's work. Drones, particularly topical at the moment, appear to dance daintily in the sky. In *Rise*, the beautiful patterns of planes, warheads and insects arranged in a rose-window pattern hover above eerie watchtowers in the mountains.

One is aware, as before, of the artist's fear and fascination with flight and all things flying. Karin makes no overtly political comment on war, war planes and the military. Instead she draws upon her own paradoxical love of aeronautics and her awareness of the destructive power those instruments of war can bring. Her paintings share a common thread with James Rosenquist's iconic work *F-111* (Museum of Modern Art, New York). Both artists use modern war craft as a defining symbol of the age, but do so in a way that highlights how acceptable and banal such imagery has become. The war plane has become a fetishised consumer article or a harmless children's toy. It is interesting to note how relevant these themes still are nearly 50 years after the creation of *F-111*.

This is Karin's second solo exhibition at Waterhouse & Dodd, and follows a very successful solo presentation of the artists' work at Abu Dhabi Art in 2010. Her work is in many significant private and corporate collections in the UK, USA and UAE. It is our hope and belief that this new collection will further enhance her growing reputation.

Jamie Anderson

Detail of *Dance*; illustrated p.7



Detail of *Rise*; illustrated p.17

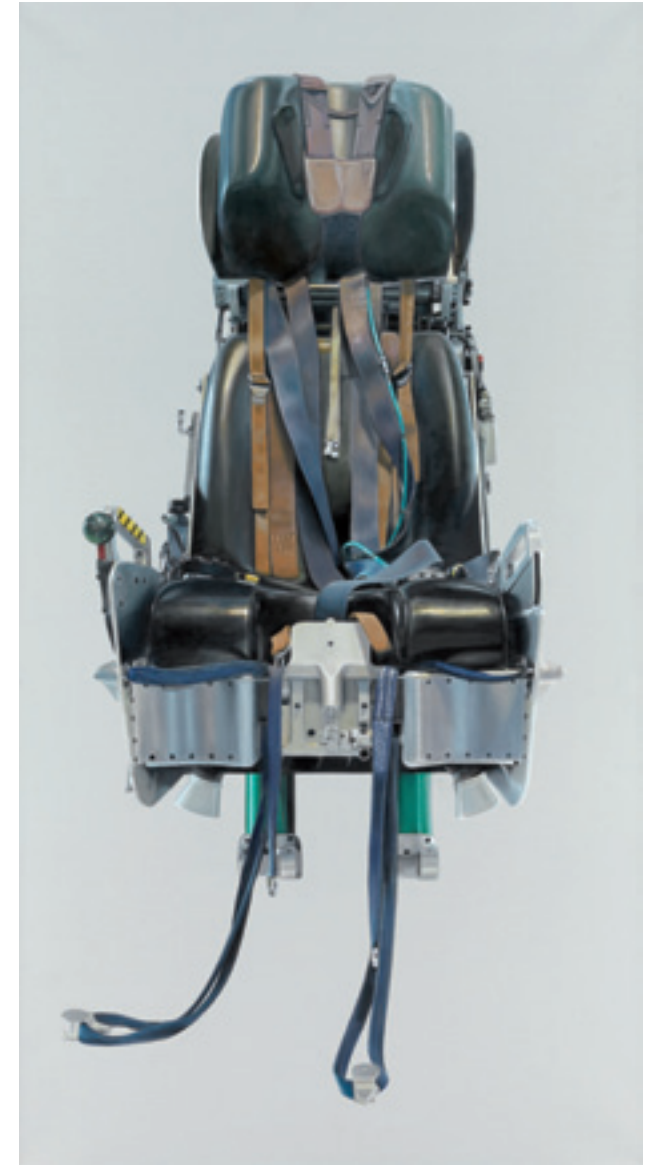


Ejector Seat 1
Ejector seat, paint, modeling materials
55 x 31.5 x 18 in / 140 x 80 x 46 cm

The seat in question is a Martin-Baker Mk2 seat which was almost certainly fitted to an early version of the English Electric Canberra.



Reign I
Oil & acrylic on canvas (diptych)
59 x 31.5 in / 150 x 80 cm (each canvas)





Dance
Oil & acrylic on canvas
59 x 82.5 in / 150 x 210 cm
detail illustrated above



Reign II
Oil & acrylic on canvas (diptych)
59 x 31.5 in / 150 x 80 cm (each canvas)



Rule

Oil & acrylic on canvas
23.5 x 39.5 in / 60 x 100 cm





Reign III
Oil & acrylic on canvas (diptych)
39.5 x 23.5 in / 100 x 60 cm (each canvas)
detail illustrated above



Fall

Oil & acrylic on canvas

23.5 x 39.5 in / 60 x 100 cm



*Rise*

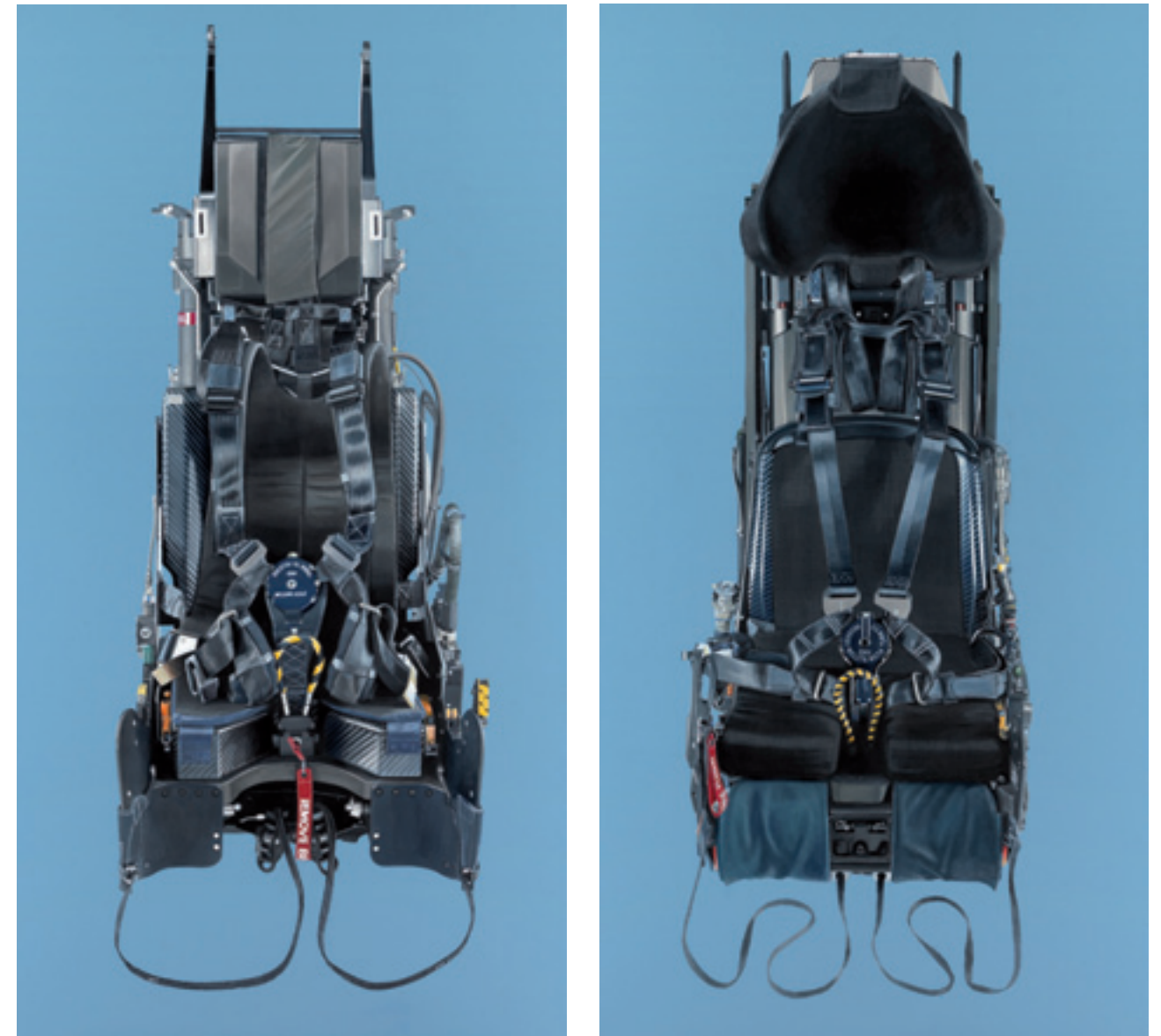
Oil & acrylic on canvas

31.5 x 59 in / 80 x 150 cm

detail illustrated above



Reign IV
Oil & acrylic on canvas (diptych)
59 x 31.5 in / 150 x 80 cm (each canvas)



Karin Sabine Krommes

German Born 1979

Education

1998 -2004
MA (Hons) Fine Art 1st class + travel scholarship award,
University of Edinburgh and Edinburgh College of Art

Solo Exhibitions

- 2010 Signature, solo booth, Abu Dhabi Art
- 2009 Swarm, solo exhibition, Waterhouse & Dodd,
- 2001 Solo Exhibition, Sektscheune, Nittel (Germany)

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2011 Abu Dhabi Art, Abu Dhabi, UAE
SCOPE Basel, Kaserne Basel, Switzerland
Miami International Art Fair, Florida
Opening Show, Waterhouse & Dodd,
104 Greene Street, New York
Inside Out - Jamaica Street Artists
Group Exhibition, Bristol
- 2010 SCOPE Miami, Miami
SCOPE Basel, Basel
London Art Fair, Islington, London
Miami International Art Fair, Florida
- 2009 Jamaica Street Artists and Friends,
Group Exhibition, Bristol City Museum
157 Autumn Exhibition, Royal West of England
Academy, Bristol

- 2009 Jamaica Street Open Studios, Bristol
London Art Fair, Islington, London
- 2008 Art Paris - Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi
FORM:London, Olympia
London Art Fair, Islington, London
- 2007 Art Paris - Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi
Jamaica Street Open Studios, Bristol
20/21 International Art Fair,
Royal College of Art, London
London Art Fair, Islington, London
- 2006 Art London, Royal Hospital, Chelsea
Baggator charity exhibition,
Tobacco Factory, Bristol
Jamaica Street Open Studios, Bristol
Flight, group exhibition, Stroud House Gallery,
Stroud, UK
- 2005 153 Autumn Exhibition, Royal West of England
Academy, Bristol
Group Exhibition, Merz Gallery, Edinburgh
SAA Annual Exhibition, Royal Scottish Academy,
Edinburgh
- 2004 Postcards for Sick Kids, charity exhibition,
Lyon & Turnbull, Edinburgh
Braveart04, Group Exhibition,
Atrium Gallery, London
Group Exhibition, Merz Gallery, Edinburgh
- 2002 Artothek, Group Exhibition,
TUFA, Trier (Germany)
- 2002 ECA Students, Group Exhibition,
Edinburgh Turnhouse Airport

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