

KATE WERBLE GALLERY

83 VANDAM STREET NEW YORK, NY 10013



Henry Chapman, detail of *Green Field*, 2017

HENRY CHAPMAN
PHTHALO BLUE RED SHADE
FEBRUARY 10 – MARCH 18, 2017

Opening Friday, February 10th from 6 - 8 PM

PRESS RELEASE

The five new paintings in Henry Chapman's *Phthalo Blue Red Shade* grew from short prose accounts written while traveling through Rome, Berlin, and the western U.S. in 2016. By turns personal and fictional, mundane and funny, Chapman's writing describes the material and spiritual processes of art making.

These narratives appear in the paintings as blocks of printed text: visual, compositional and physical (acrylic-based silkscreen printing ink). Chapman paints around and between his writing. In painted and printed marks, cuts, scrapes, and stains, he develops images of figures whose loose boundaries suggest transformation, merging with one another or with the painting space itself.

Each work engages painting, printmaking, drawing and short story writing. The works resist both caption and illustration. Instead, they embody the conjunction of internal and external life, reflecting Chapman's interest in the simultaneousness of emotional, visual, and material experience.

The exhibition title, taken from the paint color 'Phthalo Blue (Red Shade)', identifies a color, a compound, an organic material and a commercial product. It is a color that recurs in each painting.

Henry Chapman (USA, b. 1987 in Brooklyn, NY) received his BFA at The Cooper Union in 2010 and his MFA in 2015 from Yale School of Art. Chapman has held a solo exhibition at T293 in Naples, IT. His work has been exhibited in venues such as Galeria Nicodim, Bucharest, RO; Drury Gallery, Marlboro, VT; Cooper Union, NY; and Recess Activities Inc., NY. He has held residencies at Yaddo and Vermont Studio Center. Chapman currently lives and works in Berkeley, CA.