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PRESS RELEASE

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ODETTA PRESENTS **OPENING DAY** WITH JOE AMRHEIN, ROB DE OUDE, ENRICO GOMEZ, MARKUS LINNENBRINK

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ODETTA presents Opening Day

Joe Amrhein, Rob de Oude, Enrico Gomez and Markus Linnenbrink

Inaugural exhibition of Odetta, a new gallery in Bushwick, in conjunction with Bushwick Open Studios 2014

May 30- June 29, 2014

Opening Reception: Saturday May 31, 6-8 pm 229 Cook Street, Brooklyn, NY 11206

ODETTA is pleased to present recent works by **Joe Amrhein, Rob de Oude, Enrico Gomez and Markus Linnenbrink** for the gallery's inaugural exhibition, during <u>Bushwick Open Studios/BOS</u> 2014.

OPENING DAY pulls together significant artists from the local neighborhood who share a similar focus on abstraction, lettering, line and color.

<u>Joe Amrhein's</u> enamel on mylar paintings, which will be exhibited in Bushwick for the first time, are meditations on layers, language, and mandalas.

Joe Amrhein is the founder and Co-owner / Director of Pierogi Gallery and The Boiler, both in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, in addition to working as an active visual artist. Known for its inventive program, Pierogi was launched twenty years ago. Gallery artists range from recent graduates having their first exhibitions, to veterans who have been included in important exhibitions such as the Venice Biennale, Site Santa Fe, and the Whitney Biennial. Pierogi is also known for its Flat Files, housing original works by 800+ artists. As an artist, Amrhein is a painter who works mainly with text on a variety of media, including translucent vellum and glass. He uses language, text, and font icons as the primary subject, with reference to sign painting, which gives this language scale and vitality. The materials he paints on, besides being traditional surfaces for signs, afford him the option to develop the text within a metaphorical content. He has exhibited widely in the US and Europe, and is represented by Jochen Hempel Gallery, Leipzig, Germany.

Rob de Oude will be showing his large-scale painting Dodge & Dislodge, for the first time in NYC, in addition to his other hypnotic, obsessively focused paintings exalting line, repetition and the inherent fallibility of the human touch.

Rob de Oude has shown recently in the US, Europe and Asia, notably at: Galerie Gourvennec Ogor in Marseille, France, Storefront Bushwick in Brooklyn, NY, McKenzie Fine Art in New York, NY, BRIC Rotunda in Brooklyn, NY and City Ice Arts in Kansas City, MO. As a founding member, de Oude is currently co-director of Parallel Art Space in Queens, NY.

"By introducing shifting angles and layers of new color, he establishes self-generating patterns of rhythm and a relentless sense of motion. These layers of tightly spaced bands of color and collisions of angled lines produce changing optic effects, including moiré patterns that make his surfaces vibrate with an underlying energy. He draws inspiration from pioneering abstract painters of the last century whose work embodied visionary, utopian ideas, among them, El Lissitzky, Malevich and Mondrian. Like these pioneering abstract painters, de Oude is dedicated to rigorous formal experimentation." -Elizabeth Ferrer (curator, BRIC Rotunda Gallery)

<u>Enrico Gomez</u> creates acrylic, ink and watercolor works on stretched paper and panel based on abstracted letterform and calligraphic line. In his paintings he explores and obscures our most basic forms of inter-personal connection.

Enrico Gomez is a painter, curator and art critic.. He has exhibited at The Front Room Gallery in Brooklyn, NY, IOTAprojects in New York City, P.S.122 Gallery in Long Island City, The Leslie-Lohman Museum of

Gay and Lesbian Art in New York, NY and the Pop Up Art Shop in Baranquilla, Columbia. He was a founding member of Camel Art Space, an artist-run art gallery in East Williamsburg, Brooklyn. He is the Co-Founder and Co-Director of Parallel Art Space, an artist-run gallery in Ridgewood, Queens. Gomez is the monthly art critic for WAGMAG, Brooklyn Art Guide, and for esse: art + opinions. In 2014 Brooklyn Magazine named him one of the 100 Most Influential People in Brooklyn Culture.

<u>Markus Linnenbrink</u> will be exhibiting in his neighborhood of Bushwick for the first time, showing his large-scale painting MEINWILDEHERZ and other recent work. MEINWILDEHERZ embodies layers of emotion, memory and a passion for the gestural abstraction of the mid-20th century Abstract Expressionists.

Born in Germany, *Markus Linnenbrink* has exhibited his work extensively at galleries and museums all around the world. Currently based in the USA, Linnenbrink works from a studio in Brooklyn and effortlessly moves between three dimensional, site-specific and painting-based practices and projects. He notably utilizes resin as a core material - in tandem with his characteristic oozing and streaked hues of vivid color, or similarly-manipulated shades of sober greys and blacks. Eagerly sought-after, examples of Linnenbrink's work are now housed in the permanent collections of prestigious institutions, including San Francisco's Museum of Modern Art, the Herzliya Museum of Art, in Israel, Ucla Hammer, in L.A and Kassel's Museum Neue Galerie. Linnenbrink is now represented by Ameringer Mcenery Yohe Gallery in NYC and will have a solo exhibition at the gallery this coming September.

ODETTA is a new gallery created and run by artist Ellen Hackl Fagan, a recent transplant to Bushwick. The gallery will present the works of contemporary artists focusing on Color Theory, Minimalism, Glyphs, Buddha Mind, Fluxus, History, Humor, Psychedelia, Ephemera, Science, Math and Music.

OPENING DAY is the gallery's inaugural exhibition, in conjunction with Bushwick Open Studios 2014. The gallery opens on May 30, and there will be an artist's reception on Saturday May 31 from 6-8 pm. During Bushwick Open Studios the Gallery will be open Friday thru Sunday 12-6 pm. Thereafter hours will be Fri-Sun 1-6 pm and by appointment.

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