

# Althuis Hofland Fine Arts

## New works

**Tom Goldenberg**

**Opening 16 October 17:00 - 20:00 and 17 October 13:00 - 18:00**

**Exhibition dates: 16 October - 14 November, 2020**

Althuis Hofland Fine Arts is very proud to present the first solo exhibition by artist **Tom Goldenberg (1948, USA)** in Europe. “...Lush surfaces, delicate coloration, and emotion checked by a “cool intelligence” reminiscent of Jasper Johns”(1). In this manner Art in America discussed Goldenberg’s works in 1980. In the 40 years that passed his paintings moved from figuration to abstraction and back again, alongside close studies of brushstrokes, pigment, gesture, and paint application of works by for example De Kooning, Picasso, Bonnard, Clyfford Still, Ad Reinhardt, Richard Diebenkorn, and Matisse, among many others.



Tom Goldenberg in his studio, 2020

The manner in which these art historical figures used elements from drawing in their paintings inspired Goldenberg’s practice and even led him to develop a course called “Drawing on Collections”. A course taught by him for over 15 years at the New School, the Morgan Library, the Metropolitan Museum Drawing Study Center, the Museum of Modern Art, the Hispanic Society, Kaikido Gallery, Brooklyn Museum and some private drawing based collections.

Throughout the years Goldenberg experimented with different points of reference; from “the party is over” empty bottles and chaos resembling New York of the eighties, to landscape and architecture. He alternated photography, painting live from nature and memory as points of departure and developed handmade, natural pigments that he grinds himself on roughened glass in order to insure desired levels of viscosity and high

colour saturation. Quite often Goldenberg paints against the backdrop of music by Bach, Thelonius Monk and Stevie Ray Vaughn, emphasizing his mood and pace of working.



Tom Goldenberg, Gravitational map, 2020, 55,8 x 76,2 cm, watercolor on paper

About his most recent body of work Goldenberg wrote; “ I use abstraction to reference an architectural or fictive space. Although a traditional picture-frame is utilized, I envision the work as an inner proscenium that operates on several planes. There are burial chambers and areas of ritual sacrifice, walls and rooms as well as windows and doorways, areas above and below ground, and deep and shallow spaces for the living and the buried.

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The paintings function as elegies or heroic, intimate poems intuiting the history of man and *The Structures of Everyday Life*—the title of a book by Fernand Braudel that is rhythmically poetic in his discussion of how humanity is orchestrated by geography, climate, technology and the routines of daily life.”

*In 1973 Goldenberg moved from Chicago to New York setting up a studio at 59 Crosby Street with the minimum functional needs: a bed, some lights, and a refrigerator. Soon after his work was on view at a group exhibition at the Aldrich Museum in Ridgefield, and he had a solo show at the Sarah Rentschler Gallery on 24th St., which was well-received by art critic Holland Cotter in the Arts Journal (2). Throughout the years Goldenberg had over 20 solo and group exhibitions throughout the United States. Three years ago Goldenberg moved from New York City to Sharon in Litchfield County, Connecticut. In 2019 he was an artist in residence at the American Academy in Rome.*

- (1): Towle, Tony. Art in America, October 1980
- (2): Cotter, Holland. New York, Arts Journal, April 1978