



Wulf Treu does not fool around. His work is personal, brash, painterly, expressive, and full of extraordinary energy. The integration of found objects that range from street signs to fragments of any description to things that become so closely a part of the process and the finished work that their original identity is not necessary, speaks to only part of his message about using rough materials to create transformation. This work is not just about transformation either. The act of painting that serves as the catalyst for creating something new from something old is meant to make a statement about the conditions of society that he sees around him, and that certainly impacted him growing up in Potsdam and Berlin – cities torn apart and rife with an extraordinary history that is difficult to ignore. As he works in a style that combines graffiti-like markings with dramatic brushwork on a variety of surfaces, evidence of a speed and heightened dexterity of execution assumes paramount importance in the overall effect. Together, color, objects, words, and the artist's energetic handling charge the work and affect the viewer's response to his message; a message that takes on many levels of interpretation depending on one's own experience and associations with what is present. The work is memorable.

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