

# Galeria Estrany-de la Mota

<http://www.estranydelamota.com/>

Passatge Mercader 18  
08008 Barcelona, Spain  
T +34 93 215 70 51

## Rasmus Nilausen. The Looks. The Lux

Opening: Thursday, July 2th 2015, 12.00 p.m.

Exhibition: 02.07.2015 – 18.09.2015. Monday to Friday from 10.30 p.m. to 7.00 a.m.

“Light is the basis of the technology of painting, able to create the illusion of a visual space. Pure seeing is blindness: If there is only light, everything appears white. In the absence of light, you see only black. Both are needed to differentiate objects and subjects within a space. When speaking of light, thus we also speak of the shadow.”

– Rasmus Nilausen

Galeria Estrany-de la Mota is pleased to present the exhibition *The Looks. The Lux* by Danish artist Rasmus Nilausen (Copenhagen, 1980).

In his first exhibition in our gallery, Nilausen presents a selection of recent works focusing on perception, light and language as key elements to the subjective interpretation of a work of art. To these three elements the Danish painter adds the free use of technique, the accident and irony.

As usual in his work, Nilausen approaches the history of painting as the starting point for his research on the artwork and the relationship established between the author and the viewer. Quoting directly from works of the past, to reflections based on movements or certain elements, the artist raises a number of considerations that are generated in the act of painting itself. From the technical or the physical, to the end result and how it is read or received by the person who contemplates it.

On this occasion, Nilausen uses the candle, burnt-down halfway; a symbol borrowed from the baroque, as a representation of light and allegory to the duration of human life. A contemporary twist on this idea is the use of the candle as a light bulb in direct allusion to interior paintings by Francis Bacon or Philip Guston. As examples of this reference we have the works: *The Mobile*, *Flamboyance*, *The Spot* and, finally, *The Deal*, which ultimately works almost like a self-portrait.

Another constant concern in the work of Nilausen is language, since in his daily life he is constantly translates between four languages. He's specially fascinated by puns and misunderstandings that allow him to create new possibilities: to expand meanings, add layers of information to the text and even turn that text into another element of his painting.

Finally, we'll say that in his way of working, the process is essential. That is, the addition to the work of all that has happened during the act of painting. The importance of the biographical, but also the inclusion of accidents and self-references.

To Nilausen painting is also a territory of trial and error, of doubts, personal obsessions and even contradictions, all of them valid in the final result. A space where wrongness serves to model rightness, in an endless process idealistically seeking perfection.

In that process, the creator and the created have a unique relationship in which the simple, the banal, the minimal help to consider the complexity of his painting. A work in which the rigor and self-requirement is set as a hard and non-negotiable way.