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Press Release

NILS VERKAEREN – IN THE HEART OF MOROCCO

Online Viewing Room

March 20 – May 31, 2025

Buysse Gallery is pleased to present **In the Heart of Morocco**, an online viewing room dedicated to **Nils Verkaeren's Presence of a Mountain series**, created during his plein air explorations in Morocco. Extending his ongoing engagement with landscape as both subject and process, Verkaeren's paintings respond to the elemental forces of **light, erosion, and time**, capturing the mountain not as a static entity but as an evolving presence.

About the Exhibition

Verkaeren's **plein air practice** is rooted in direct interaction with the environment. Working in Morocco, he allowed the region's **shifting conditions—desert winds, filtered sunlight, and the weight of geological formations—to dictate his painterly responses**. These works move beyond representation, instead registering the **ephemeral qualities of place**, where erosion is as much a mark-maker as the brush itself.

In *Presence of a Mountain*, Verkaeren operates within **multiple temporalities**, embracing **transition rather than permanence**. His approach resists passive observation—his compositions are built through **movement, erasure, and reapplication**, mirroring the ways in which landscapes are **continuously redefined by natural forces**. Through his use of **earthy reds, ochres, and violets**, the paintings reflect a deep material connection to the land, while the interplay of **light and shadow** imbues the works with an atmospheric depth.

By working directly within the environment, Verkaeren expands the dialogue between **painting, place, and time**—challenging the notion of landscape as fixed and instead emphasizing its **constant state of becoming**.

Quote from the Artist

"The mountain is not a fixed entity, but a process unfolding in time." — Nils Verkaeren

Viewing Room Highlights

The online exhibition features a curated selection of paintings from the *Presence of a Mountain* series, alongside **documentation of Verkaeren's working process in the Moroccan landscape**. Installed against the very mountains that informed them, these works absorb the shifting conditions of **light, temperature, and terrain**, integrating environmental forces into their materiality.

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About the Artist

Nils Verkaeren (b. 1980, Belgium) works within the **plein air tradition**, yet his approach extends beyond observation to a **physical and immersive engagement with the landscape**. His work has been exhibited internationally, including recent solo exhibitions at **Kusseneers Gallery (Brussels)**, **MMaison (Bogotá)**, and **Galerie Lloyd (Ostend)**.

For additional information, press inquiries, or image requests, please contact:



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