Helen Berggruen

The Song Inside of Things

A new publication featuring recent work by California artist Helen Berggruen, featuring forty-five paintings, including those exhibited at Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, in summer 2025. The book forms part of the Hurtwood Artist & Gallery Series.



Sales Points

Helen Berggruen held a solo exhibition at Berggruen Gallery, California (26 June to 14 August 2025).

With a foreword by Mary Kate Tankard, an essay by Craig Burnett and an interview by Jeff Gunderson.

Part of the 'Hurtwood Artist & Gallery Series', presenting new, recent and selected works by a single artist working nationally and internationally today.

Specifications

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Description

The Song Inside of Things is a new publication by California artist Helen Berggruen. Featuring oils on canvas and linen from her exhibition at Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, in summer 2025, alongside other works made between 1994 and 2025, the book showcases a world where time is suspended and people, objects and places flicker with restless vivacity.

With an insightful foreword by Berggruen Gallery's Mary Kate Tankard, a detailed, extended essay by writer Craig Burnett and a lively interview by Jeff Gunderson of the San Francisco Art Institute Legacy Foundation & Archive, the book illuminates Berggruen's practice within a selection of forty-five of her most significant paintings.

Each publication in the 'Hurtwood Artist & Gallery Series' presents new, recent and selected works by a single artist working nationally and internationally today. Along with a foreword by an established art-world professional, the series features specially commissioned essays and interviews with the artist by leading writers, art historians and curators, offering in-depth insight. Central to each publication are the exhibitions and galleries that help to spotlight some of the most engaging artists of today.

Artist

After an early career in avant-garde theatre performing with such acclaimed directors as Robert Wilson and Peter Schumann, in the early 1980s Helen Berggruen stepped away from the theatre and began painting. Primary influences include Persian and Indian miniatures, Dutch seventeenth-century painters, Mantegna, Carpaccio, Constable, van Gogh, the post-Impressionists, French Fauvism and German Expressionism. Berggruen is based in San Francisco. Her work has been exhibited throughout Iowa, in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in New York, San Francisco, London, Berlin and south-west France.

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Interior with Matadors, 2018
Oil on canvas
121.9 x 101.6 cm, 48 x 40 in
© courtesy of Helen Berggruen
Photo: Shaun Roberts



Path Work, Luxembourg Gardens, 2013–25
Oil on canvas
116.9 x 86.4 cm, 46 x 34 in
© courtesy of Helen Berggruen



L'Assemblée Nationale, 1995-2025
Oil on canvas
105.4 x 80 cm, 41½ x 31½ in
© courtesy of Helen Berggruen
Photo: Shaun Roberts



Fall Harvest with Open Book, 2018
Oil on canvas
71.1 cm x 91.4 cm, 28 x 36 in
© courtesy of Helen Berggruen
Photo: Shaun Roberts



Cattle Ranch Hand, 2023
Oil on linen
55.9 x 71 cm, 22 x 28 in
© courtesy of Helen Berggruen
Photo: Shaun Roberts



Virage, 2002
Oil on linen
55.9 x 71.1 cm, 22 x 28 in
© courtesy of Helen Berggruen
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