

Nico Sawatzki

WIE ES IST KANN ES SEIN

HOW IT IS IT CAN BE

Exhibition: September 25 – November 15, 2025

Vernissage: September 24, 7 p.m.

The artist is present.

PRESS RELEASE

September 15, 2025

In his third solo exhibition *WIE ES IST KANN ES SEIN (How It Is It Can Be)* which opens on September 24 at Galerie Isabelle Lesmeister, Regensburg-based artist Nico Sawatzki presents new works that reveal the development of his painterly vocabulary over recent years in a unique way.

Sawatzki's painting thrives on the tension between materiality and atmosphere. His new works deal with the fragility of perception and the fleetingness of the moment. Sawatzki's painting deliberately balances between concretion and dissolution, between atmospheric density and open emptiness. At first glance, the images appear calm, but upon closer inspection, they reveal a dynamic movement of depth. It is this interplay of condensation and dissolution that gives the works their unmistakable poetic tension.

Layers of glazes, broken areas of color, and subtle textures create pictorial spaces in which possible landscapes or architectural fragments are hinted at—without being defined. The motifs seem to float, as if they are about to appear or disappear.

In Sawatzki's latest works, color emerges more clearly than ever as an independent actor. The artist uses it not merely as a means of representation, but as a space that opens up between the viewer and the canvas. These color constellations create pictorial spaces that defy unambiguous interpretation. Sawatzki's works elude quick readability. They invite us to pause and reflect. Amidst a loud, accelerated present, his painting asserts a quiet, poetic power—and opens up a space for viewers in which seeing once again becomes a conscious experience.

Clearly recognizable motifs are replaced by hints: a horizon that dissolves again in the next moment; an architectural figure that only takes shape in peripheral vision; a landscape that is more mood than topography. Sawatzki's paintings oscillate between presence and disappearance—they allow something to appear without fixing it in place.

The title *WIE ES IST KANN ES SEIN* (*How It Is It Can Be*) refers to the openness of this painterly world. It emphasizes not the fixed, but the possible—the image as a place in between, where perception is not complete, but in motion. The current development becomes particularly clear when compared to his earlier phases of work: what was previously more strongly oriented toward fixed compositions now opens up to the processual. The painting emerges by allowing uncertainties, by allowing blurring.

In a present determined by speed and permanent sensory overload, Sawatzki's painting asserts a quiet intensity. It demands time—time to engage, to see the transitions, the small irritations, the fine cracks in the areas of color.

Nico Sawatzki (born in Regensburg in 1984) has been working as a freelance artist since 2012. Starting with street art and graffiti, he developed his own visual language using spray paint and acrylic on canvas, for which he was awarded the City of Regensburg's Culture Promotion Prize in 2022. His works have been presented at internationally renowned art fairs, including KIAF Art Seoul, Art Toronto, UNTITLED Miami Beach, Palm Beach Modern + Contemporary, and regularly at art KARLSRUHE, where he has been represented several times in one-artist shows. Works by Sawatzki are part of public collections, such as the Bavarian State Painting Collection in Munich and the art collection of the Upper Palatinate district.

A catalog will be published to accompany the exhibition.

We look forward to seeing you at the opening and exhibition, and will be happy to provide you with additional images if required. If you are interested in interviewing the artist, please contact us in advance at info@galerie-lesmeister.de.

COMPLETE PRESS KIT

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1GK-VI6hI-QyAjumqINpWAaR8DkwvP1JW?usp=share_link

ARTWORK INFORMATION

- (1) Nico Sawatzki, *sich plattformen*, 110 x 145 cm / 43.3 x 57.1 in, spray paint and acrylic on canvas, 2025
- (2) Nico Sawatzki, *deine Weichteile*, 75 x 100 cm / 29.5 x 39.4 in, spray paint and acrylic on canvas, 2025
- (3) Nico Sawatzki, *hinter Gedanken kommen*, 140 x 120 cm / 55.1 x 47.2 in, spray paint and acrylic on canvas, 2025
- (4) Nico Sawatzki, *gute Unruhe*, 90 x 80 cm / 35.4 x 31.5 in, spray paint and acrylic on canvas, 2025
- (5) Nico Sawatzki, *Gegruselpeter*, 75 x 60 cm / 29.5 x 23.6 in, spray paint and acrylic on canvas, 2025
- (6) Nico Sawatzki, *so viel zu tun, so viel zu tun*, 55 x 40 cm / 21.7 x 15.7 in, spray paint and acrylic on canvas, 2025

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