

ARTIST STATEMENT

JUSTINE OTTO



**“...WHERE PAINTING IS
COMPLETELY FREE,
UNRESTRICTED BY THE
LIMITATION OF A (SIGNIFYING)
FORM – AND FIGURATION, IN
WHICH RATIO IS PREDOMINANT.”**

I find it particularly exciting to explore the border between figuration and abstraction. My most recent works include figurative elements in addition to completely abstract passages. I like the contrast between complete detachment, where painting is completely free, unrestricted by the limitation of a (signifying) form – and figuration, in which ratio is predominant.

I try to achieve this by varying the density of different techniques. Over the years I have developed a wide range of techniques from which I can now draw: there is spraying, wet-on-wet painting, taping, scraping, leveling out, dissolving all, stamping, working with various tools.

I like it when dissimilar techniques come together and the entire object merges into a resonant image. There are no taboos. Being courageous and challenging oneself is part of what painting is for me. [...] – **Justine Otto**