



Cornelia Thomsen

garden



Cornelia Thomsen

garden

Cornelia Thomsen

garden

Table of Contents

5 Foreword
6 Paintings
31 Curriculum Vitae

Foreword

Every once in a while a truly gifted artist comes along.

Now, in this day and age of confusion, of overflow of information, of creators expressing themselves in any given fashion, it is difficult to know how to recognize artistic merit. With patterns of recognition more diverse than in any other time in history, we lack traditional comparisons to aid our understanding of quality, so how do we recognize the truly gifted artist?

The true artist's work is, in fact, a gift: a gift of communication, of participation, of friendship. Our first response to the true artist's work will be that of emotional excitement—the work somehow touches us! We can't *not* see it; once seen we can't avoid it; we are drawn to it, can't look left or right of it any longer. We begin to investigate it with our feelings: how true is it? How true is it to me? Can I rely on its informing me with the humanity that I am looking for?

And so, quite immediately, the true artist's work becomes more and more fascinating. Why does it fascinate us? Ask a true artist this question and more often than not the response will be evasive. Perhaps they don't quite know themselves, and for good reason: the true artist mediates between what comes to her from Nature and what we then see in the work produced. The work is never finished without the viewer seeing it.

As such, the artist is sharing with us her creative process. In observing Nature (all things around us) something comes through to the individual spirit: an untimely emotion, a selection that goes directly from the eye to the hand onto the paper. The art is an image of Nature and at the same time an image unto itself. From this inner tension (between Nature itself and our interpretation of it) stem the works of art that are manifold in their meanings, in their possible viewings—works that don't tell us what to see, or don't force us to see one particular thing—works that are not »Pied Piper Paintings«. Instead these works display to us an inner

freedom of choice, options for discussion, thus stimulating our inner and exterior conversations, our feelings and thoughts.

So we look at Cornelia Thomsen's studies—what happens? What are they—studies of Nature or figments of the mind? At times seemingly abstract, at times seemingly concrete, always on the border, always asking questions. Where are we? How do we feel? Whether we might be looking at trees in autumn, pastures of summer, neglected weeds along the roadside, or rather structures beyond our immediate view: we can find anything and everything in Nature, and the artist can make anything and everything out of it, if she just chooses to do so. By choice and selection the true artist opens up the gambit of her discussion with us. We are left free to follow her on her investigative journey through our perceptions.

Once we are touched there is no letting go, no turning back: those same questions nag at our conscience. The artist's own process of finding expression to the previously inexplicable is shared with us, and this is an act of friendship. In our own process of excitement in what we have discovered, each person's discovery is individual to him or her. Just as the artist has grasped a slice from Nature, we can grasp, each of us individually, a slice from the manifold meanings inherent to the picture.

The artist has gone out on a limb, has put her heart on a silver platter, daring to share her views of the world at large with us, opening the discussion for us—in good hopes that the world may become a better place. I, for one, embrace this discussion full-heartedly and stand in awe of the artist's work.

See for yourself if my assessment of Cornelia Thomsen's work is true or not!

Henning Lohner
Professor, Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK)
Zurich, Switzerland

»Nr. 8-2005«

Watercolor on Paper, 39 1/2" x 27 3/4" (100 x 70 cm)

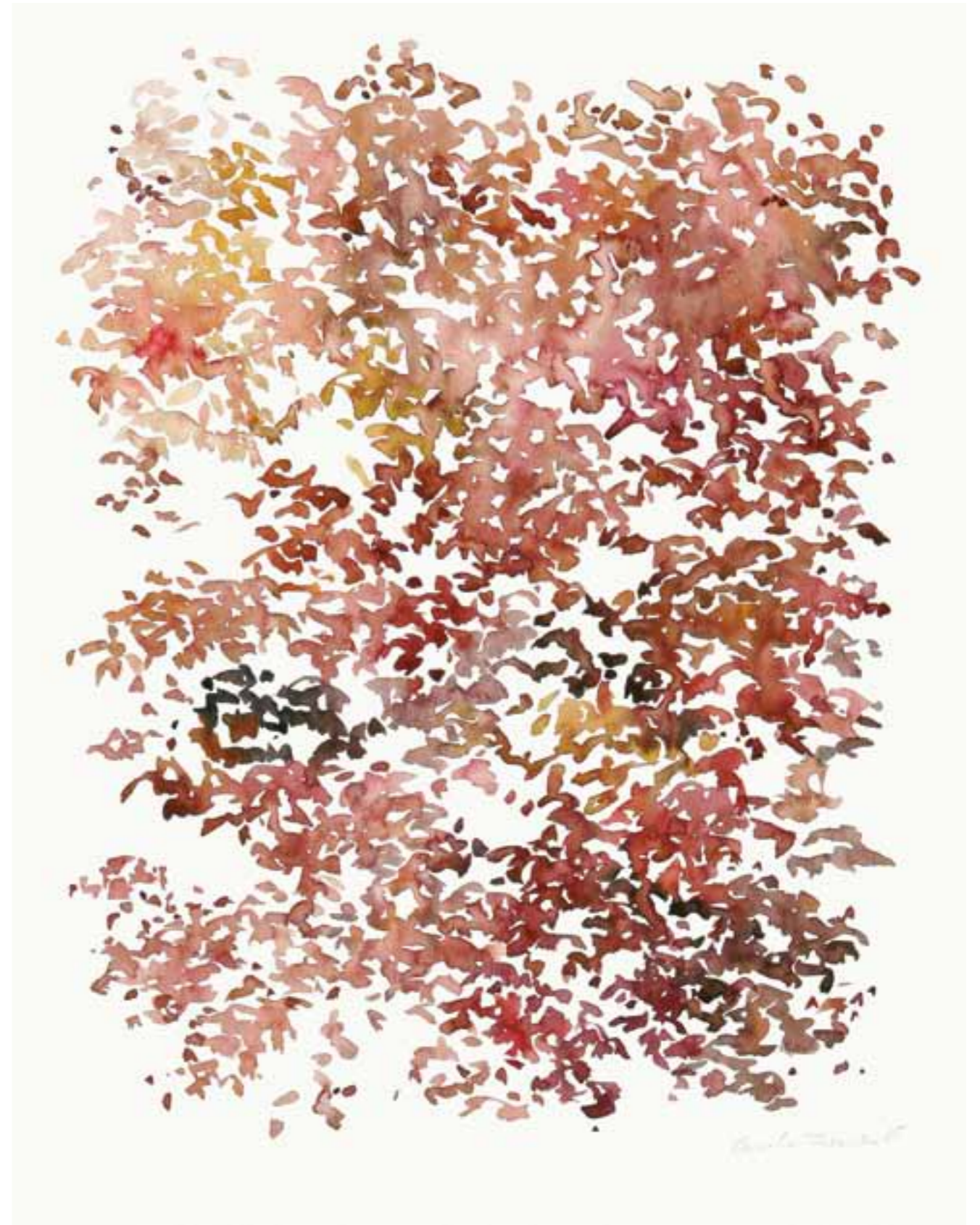


»Nr. 12-2005«
Watercolor on Paper, 39 1/2" x 27 3/4" (100 x 70 cm)





»Nr. 22-2005«
Watercolor on Paper, 16" × 12½" (41 × 32 cm)



»Nr. 16-2005«
Watercolor on Paper, 16" × 12 ½" (41 × 32 cm)



»Nr. 20-2005«
Watercolor on Paper, 16" × 12½" (41 × 32 cm)



»Nr. 18-2005«
Watercolor on Paper, 16" × 12½" (41 × 32 cm)



»Nr. 14-2005«
Watercolor on Paper, 16" × 12½" (41 × 32 cm)

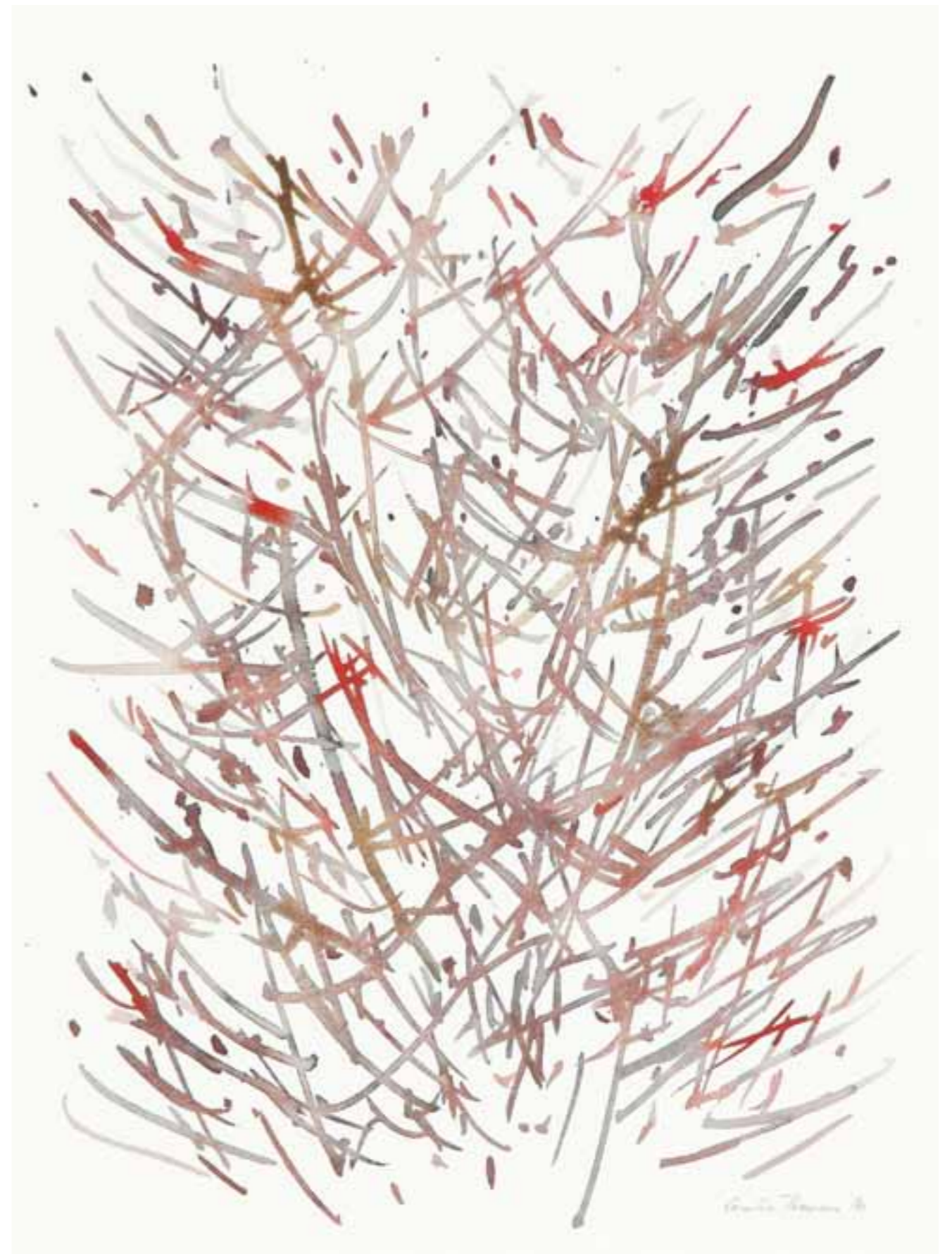


»Nr. 34-2005«

Watercolor on Paper, 20" × 14" (51 × 36 cm)

»Nr. 3-2006«

Watercolor on Paper, 15 3/4" x 11 3/4" (40 x 30 cm)



»Nr. 35-2005«

Watercolor on Paper, 20" × 14" (51 × 36 cm)



»Nr. 2-2006«

Watercolor on Paper, 30 ¼" × 22 ½" (77 × 57 cm)



»Nr. 1-2006«

Watercolor on Paper, 30 ¼" × 22 ½" (77 × 57 cm)





Cornelia Thomsen

Personal History

Born 1970 in Rudolstadt, Thuringia, Germany
Lives and works in New York City

Painter at Meissen Porcelain Company (1986 - 94)
Pohle-Stiehl Art School, Darmstadt, Germany (1997 - 2002)
University of Art and Design Offenbach/Main, Germany (2002 - 2011), MFA 2011

Solo Exhibitions

Cornelia Thomsen »Stripe Paintings« Erik Thomsen LLC, New York, NY, 2011 (catalog)
Cornelia Thomsen »Nature's Reflections« Behnke & Doherty Gallery, Washington Depot, CT, 2010
Cornelia Thomsen »Works on Paper« The International Art & Design Fair, New York, NY, 2005 (catalog)

Group Exhibitions

»Retrospective« Behnke & Doherty Gallery, Washington Depot, CT, 2011
»Etchings and Prints« Manhattan Graphics Center, New York, NY, 2010
»Fragile Diplomacy« The Bard Graduate Center of New York, NY, 2008
»Art Attack« Frère Independent, Chelsea Hotel, New York, NY, 2007
Broome Street Gallery, New York, NY, 2007
»Immer die schönste Malerei« Galerie K9 aktuelle Kunst, Hannover, Germany, 2006
»Kunsthalle Sandwiese« BKI Sandip Shah, Alsbach, Germany, 2004
»Was isst ein Künstler« BKI Sandip Shah, Darmstadt, Germany, 2004

www.corneliathomsen.com

Erik Thomsen LLC

23 East 67th Street
New York, NY 10065

Phone 212 288 2588
Fax 212 535 6787

info@erikthomsen.com
www.erikthomsen.com

Cover: Cornelia Thomsen, 1:1 detail from »Nr. 12-2005«

Cornelia Thomsen

garden

© 2011 Erik Thomsen LLC, New York
All rights reserved

Photography: Klaus Wäldele and Erik Thomsen
Portrait photo: Erik Thomsen
Design and Production: Valentin Beinroth
Printing: Henrich Druck + Medien GmbH, Frankfurt am Main

Printed in Germany



