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LIVING

Thomas Delaroziere & Marika Thoms

A duo exhibition at Galerie Sara Lily Perez, Bikini Berlin

22 October – 21 November 2026

Press preview: Thursday, 22 October 2026, 4 pm

Vernissage: Thursday, 22 October 2026, 6 – 9 pm

BERLIN | Galerie Sara Lily Perez (Galerie SLP) is pleased to present *LIVING*, a duo exhibition bringing together French-Martiniquais painter Thomas Delaroziere and German abstract painter Marika Thoms. Running from 22 October to 21 November 2026, the exhibition sets two very different strategies for survival, vitality and presence in conversation: the grounding sanctuary of rooted ecological memory, and the kinetic force of abstraction as psychological resilience. To live is not a passive state. It is an active, urgent mechanism of endurance, one that asks us both to root ourselves in the tangible earth and to pursue light without rest. *LIVING* explores how we anchor ourselves to reality, and how we make the light we need to move through it.

Thomas Delaroziere: the earth as living memory

For Thomas Delaroziere, living is ancestral and bound to the soil. Drawing on the tropical topographies of Martinique and the architecture of the Jardin Créole, his oil paintings are acts of grounding. He does not simply depict plants; he captures the heavy, humid atmosphere of memory and cultural heritage. His canvases are dense with deep greens, shadow and organic structure, a world in which the land is a living entity that holds history.

The works on view include *Un Dimanche, après la saison des mangues* (oil and charcoal on canvas, 190 x 220 cm, 2025), *Entre les planches de Courbaril* (oil on canvas, 120 x 190 cm, 2026), *Lonbraj ka pléré* (oil on canvas, 150 x 120 cm), *Au long du Nil* (oil on canvas, 120 x 150 cm, 2025), *Carême bourdonnant* (dry pastel and oil paint on raw canvas, 120 x 100 cm, 2026) and *Jardin Créole Série Nr 6* (oil and ink on canvas, 60 x 50 cm, 2025), alongside three works on paper: *Membre thermophile*, *Salive métallique* and *Recrachant une pluie de sable*.

Born in Marseille in 1994, Delaroziere grew up in Martinique, immersed in the volcanic

landscapes, coastlines and dense rainforests of the French West Indies, which remain the source of his botanical vocabulary. Raised by parents who were woodcrafters, he developed an early feel for material and construction. He studied architecture and engineering at the École nationale supérieure d'architecture de Marseille (2014 – 2017) before moving to Germany in 2017, where he worked in architecture and stage design and as an illustrator and storyboard artist, among other things on the children's books *Die Farbe der Haut mit allen Sinnen* (2021) and *Dare to follow your dream* (2022), before turning fully to painting. He lives and works in Berlin.

Marika Thoms: color as a force field

In stark contrast, Marika Thoms approaches living as a vital sign: an insistence on existing in the present tense. Working with raw, poured pigments (*Schüttbilder*), charcoal marks and neon accents on unprimed cotton, her abstractions first read as a wave of high-key optimism. That vibrancy is deliberate. It is a radical act of transformation, in which color and momentum become a force field against internal gravity and psychological weight. Her radiant gestures are an urgent coping mechanism, a conscious effort to forge light out of dark spaces.

The works on view include *Summer Flow*, *Summer Palms*, *Relax*, *Good Feelings* and *Mood Booster smile*.

A breathing ecosystem

Together, the two practices form a complete ecosystem. The tension between them, the rooted reality of the landscape against the luminous, performative resilience of abstraction, produces a powerful atmospheric dialogue. Delaroziere provides the dense, protective canopy and the fertile ground; Thoms lets in the searing sunlight that breaks through it. If Delaroziere's work is the steady heartbeat of the earth, Thoms's work is the sudden electrical shock of adrenaline.

"Where Thomas Delaroziere anchors us in the humid, deeply rooted reality of Caribbean memory, Marika Thoms unleashes a fierce, kinetic optimism, manufacturing pure light as a counterweight to internal gravity. LIVING is an exhibition about survival: the sanctuary of the earth below, and the radical, necessary electricity of the sky above."

Sara Lily Perez, Founder & Director, Galerie SLP

LIVING invites visitors to cross the threshold between what grounds us and what lifts us. It suggests that the survival of the human spirit depends equally on the quiet truths buried in our

origins and the fierce, self-made light that guides us forward.

Exhibition details

- **Exhibition:** LIVING
- **Artists:** Thomas Delaroziere & Marika Thoms
- **Dates:** 22 October – 21 November 2026
- **Press preview:** Thursday, 22 October 2026, 4 pm
- **Vernissage:** Thursday, 22 October 2026, 6 – 9 pm
- **Venue:** Galerie Sara Lily Perez, Bikini Berlin, Budapester Str. 48 (1st floor), 10787 Berlin
- **RSVP:** <https://www.saralilyperez.com/event-details/living>

About Galerie Sara Lily Perez

Galerie SLP at Bikini Berlin exhibits contemporary art with strong social, environmental and philosophical resonance.

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High-resolution images, the full press kit, and interview requests with the artists or the gallery director are available on request.