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Take a look, it is not what it seems with the brothers Quistrebert

Brothers who make art together don't come around very often. There are Jake and Dinos Chapman from England and Rob and Christian Clayton from the United States, and since a few years the brothers Florian and Michael Quistrebert from Nantes, who are currently doing a residency at the Rijksakademie.

The works shown at Juliette Jongma are made in couples. They are not diptychs, but they do belong together often symmetrical and full of duplications.

The brothers Quistrebert work in the tradition of geometrical-abstract art. Their work reminds of Victor Vasarely, who infiltrated all kinds of optical illusions into his work. In two of the large works of the brothers we see an exquisite net made of white and coloured lines painted on a black background. The lines are straight, but because of the pattern the painting forms into an illusion of ovals, which seem to create a pair of eyes in a face.

However, the work is not intended to be deceptive. The paintings are too rough to be ambiguous with their jagged edges, blobs and scratches. A few of the works contain thick, cream-like shimmery surfaces, are even distinctly filthy and kitsch - and at the same time very delicate. It is beautiful to see how the colours of the paintings change when seen from a different angle. This makes that they change from kitschy pearl like paintings into a solemn bronze shield.

Kees Keijer

(Translated by Alie Sonneveldt and Sanne Luteijn)