

SASCHA BRAUNIG

Stays, 2016
aquatint etching, soft ground, sugar lift aquatint, burnishing
38.75 x 27.75 inches
edition of 25
published by Wingate Studio

Wingate Studio is pleased to announce a new etching by Sascha Braunig entitled *Stays*. Braunig created this work over the course of two one-week visits to Wingate Studio in the spring of 2016. Beginning with a watercolor sketch of her image, Braunig experimented with a variety of etching processes before landing on aquatint etching, soft ground, sugar lift aquatint, and burnishing to achieve solid and transparent fields of color, and tube-like forms.

Braunig paints from observation, creating sculptures and still lifes out of common materials such as clay, paper, and wood, which she intuitively augments and edits as she works. She portrays that historically burdened form, the female figure, as empowered within the vulnerable situation of being shown. Stretched fabric is a recent theme throughout her work, and serves as both an analogue for painting and a reference to the mortifying aspects of fashion. By obfuscating the differentiation between figure and ground, her subject is not merely a reflection of her atmosphere, but influences it as well—a visual metaphor for the objective of her work.

The figure in *Stays* does not inhabit her realm with bossiness or domination, as some of Braunig's subjects do, but more delicately maintains her equilibrium within the picture frame. The figure does not test the confines of the canvas, but rather her body is formed by the forces of her garments—she hangs limp over her top and is stretched thin in the waist by the implied corset that lends the piece its name.

Braunig (b. 1983 Qualicum Beach, BC, Canada) has been exhibited internationally, with recent shows at Kunsthall Stavanger (Stavanger, Norway), Rodolphe Janssen Gallery (Brussels, Belgium), Office Baroque (Brussels, Belgium), MOCA (Cleveland, OH), White Cube (London, UK), LOYAL (Stockholm, Sweden), Galerie Eric Hussenot (Paris, France), Anton Kern (New York, NY), New Museum (New York, NY), and Foxy Production (New York, NY). Her work is in the collections of the Baltimore Museum of Art (Baltimore, MD), Fondazione Memmo (Rome, Italy), National Gallery of Victoria (Melbourne, Australia), the Zabłudowicz Collection (London), The Hort Family Collection (New York, NY), as well as private collections internationally. She received her BFA from The Cooper Union and her MFA in painting from Yale University in 2008, and currently lives and works in Portland, ME.

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