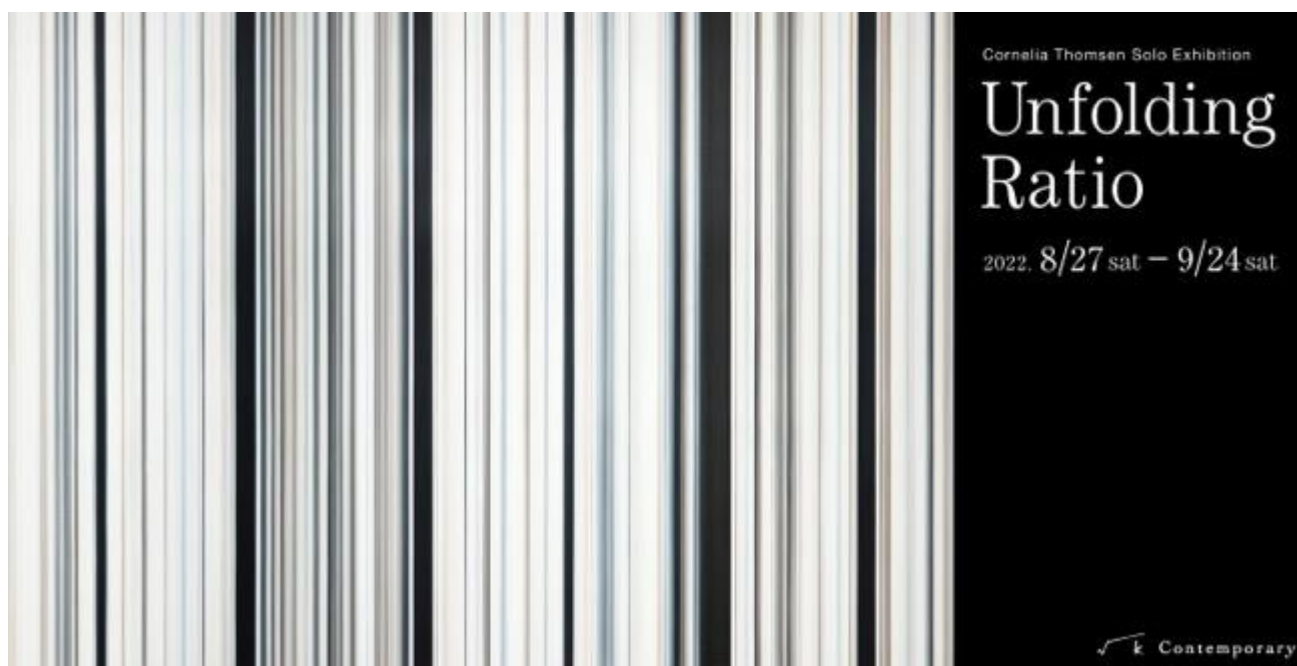


Opening August 27 Cornelia Thomsen Solo Exhibition, *Unfolding Ratio*



√K Contemporary (Root K Contemporary) is proud to host Cornelia Thomsen's solo exhibition, *Unfolding Ratio*.

Opening August 27 (Saturday) on through September 24 (Saturday), the artist's third solo exhibition in Japan will present the New York-based German artist's late to early works, from Thomsen's iconic *Stripes*, to her minimalist monochrome GR series and her portraits, which will make their first exhibition in Japan.



Anna c02 (2021)
25.5 x 20.5cm
Oil on canvas

Born in East Germany during a period when Realism was the sole aesthetic, Thomsen discovered Abstraction following the unification of East and West Germany. While the artist began her career as a figurative painter, she subsequently pursued abstract modes of expression and developed her representative *Stripes* series, transforming natural scenes into abstracted, minimalist works.

Although best recognized for her abstract works, Thomsen's recent portrait series marks the artist's return to figuration. In contrast to her early works, this series melds figuration with the "light" present within Thomsen's abstract paintings and offers a novel aesthetic. Whilst the series draws inspiration from nature and the self, a common thread throughout Thomsen's production remains in the way she confronts notions of femininity, whilst maintaining an innate sense of strength and vulnerability.

In addition to her portraits, *Unfolding Ratio* will present Thomsen's minimalist black-and-white GR series, her watercolor *Garden* series, oil on copper works as well as her NFT work, offering a diverse display of Thomsen's multifaceted oeuvre.

■ Cornelia Thomsen x Luca Scandinavia Collaboration

To mark this occasion, √K Contemporary will collaborate with the 20th-century Scandinavian furniture and décor specialist, Luca Scandinavia (Tokyo) on a special art co-ordination display.

At √K Contemporary, Thomsen's works will be presented alongside Luca Scandinavia's hand-selected curation of luxury Scandinavian antique furniture. Exhibited within the futuristic space of the gallery, Thomsen's works and Luca Scandinavia's luxury furniture will both be available for purchase.

In addition, a curated selection of Thomsen's works will also be on display at Luca Scandinavia from August 27 (Saturday) to September 10 (Saturday). Please take this opportunity to view this unique display.

Cornelia Thomsen, *Unfolding Ratio* Special Exhibition

Dates | August 27 (Saturday) to September 10 (Saturday), 2022

Venue | Luca Scandinavia

Address | 1F, 1-9-6 Chuo-ku Ginza Tokyo Japan 104-0061

Tel | 03-3535-3235

Hours | 12 pm to 7 pm (Closed on Wednesdays)

Website | <https://www.luca-inc.com/>

Instagram | @lucascandinavia

※ Opening dates and times are subject to change. Please be sure to check the Luca Scandinavia website prior to your visit.

■ **Events**

Events with the artist are scheduled to be held during the exhibition.

Stay tuned, as details will be released on the √K Contemporary website and social media pages.

Exhibition Website: https://root-k.jp/exhibitions_en/cornelia-thomsen-unfolding-ratio/

■ **Artist Statement**

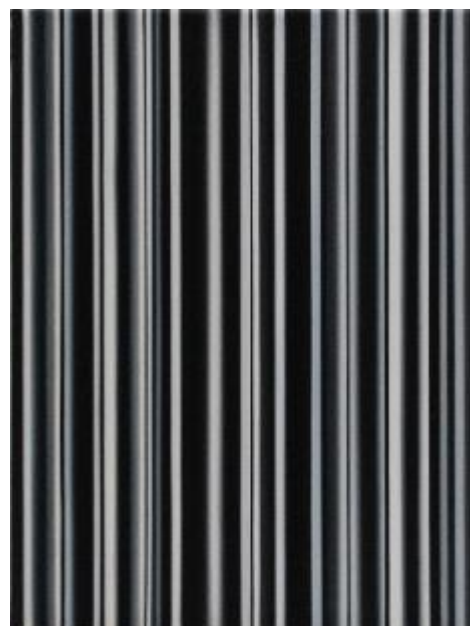
Each of my series, from the abstract Stripes paintings to the Garden watercolors and my recent portraits, meditates on a distinct moment in a complex professional, psychological, and political journey.

Cornelia Thomsen

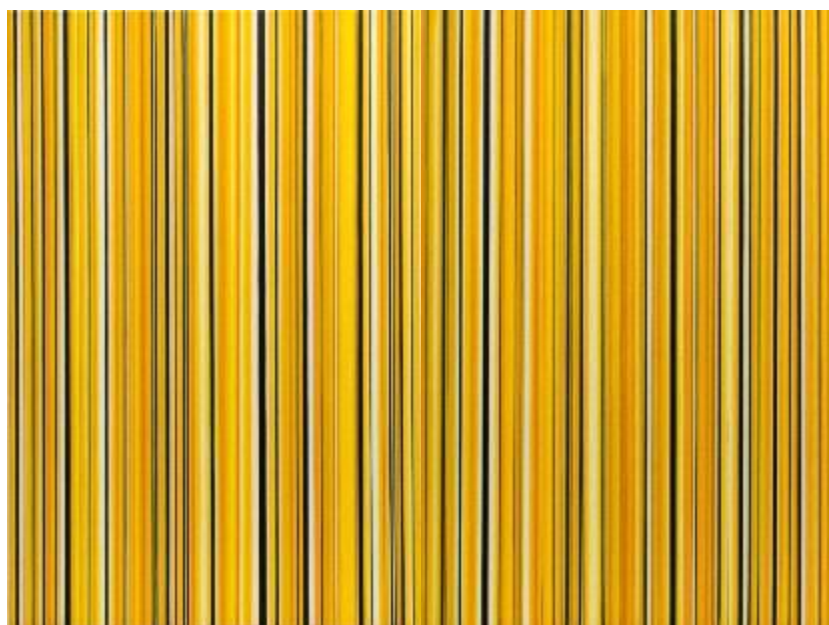
■ **Featured Works**



Stripes Nr. 102+103 (2016)
183 x 244cm
Oil on canvas



Stripes Nr. 121 (2018)
40.5 x 30.5cm
Oil on canvas

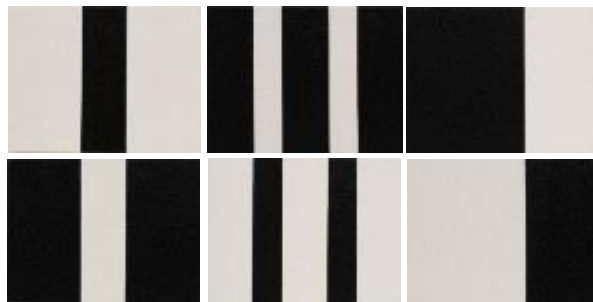


(Above) *Stripes Nr. 126* (2021)
71 x 102 cm
Oil on canvas

(Left) *Stripes Nr. 125* (2020)
92 x 122 cm
Oil on canvas



Stripes Nr. 141 (2019)
25.5 x 20.5cm
Oil on copper, framed



GR - Nr. 06 series (2021)
23 x 30.5 cm each
Oil on canvas (set of 6)



Anna c03 (2021)
25.5 x 20.5 cm
Oil on canvas

■ Artist | Cornelia Thomsen



Cornelia Thomsen is a contemporary artist living and working in New York since 2006, best known for her abstract paintings. Cornelia Thomsen began her career in 1990 as an artist at the Meissen Porcelain Manufactory in Meissen near Dresden after a 4-year apprenticeship in the company, where she was trained to paint baroque patterns onto porcelain. In 1994 she moved to Frankfurt where she enrolled in the University of Art and Design in Offenbach/Frankfurt. She turned to abstraction and developed her *Stripes* painting series in 2008 after a subsequent move to New York. The original idea of the series was based on her observation of the

ocean, with its fluctuating colors and luminosity. Initially she painted the works in a horizontal format but soon decided to flip the orientation to a vertical format to detach the stripes from their reference to nature. The *Stripes* paintings consist of vertical bands of irregular widths that reach to the very edges of the canvas. They are a result of subtle differences in width, color and intensity. The *Stripes* produce a flickering sensation imbuing the overall composition with an optical effect, which is created by using strong contrast of dark and light colors and the juxtaposition of blurred and sharp lines.

The drawings are an intrinsic, if not intimate persuasion of a light that verges on a kind of drifting. The strokes of the ink pen are not punctuated but move quietly, yet intensely, from one area of concentration to another. The result in the larger works on paper is a kind of ephemeral surface and in the smaller ones

a more purely abstract composition.

Thomsen's abstract work is primarily concerned with formal matters and deal with basic questions about color and line. She also engages with postwar German history through figurative paintings, drawings and watercolors. One example is the series *Role Models*, which consists of paintings of East German officials who were active when she was growing up in East Germany. The Meissen Propaganda Dishes are a cynical look back into her time at the Meissen Manufactory and consist of paper dishes with original Meissen flower decorations combined with ideological slogans. Figurative works are the focus of Thomsen's work during the past two years and show her interest in psychological studies. With her distinctive body of work Thomsen keeps abstract and figurative work in tension, finding inspiration from the rich history of abstract art and from her upbringing in former East Germany.

Thomsen was born in Rudolstadt in the German Democratic Republic in 1970. After the reunification of Germany she moved to Frankfurt and received BA and MFA degrees from the University of Art and Design in Offenbach/Frankfurt, Germany. She currently lives and works in New York City.

Public Collections:

Ackland Art Museum, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Fairfield University Art Museum, Fairfield, Connecticut
Friedrich Fröbel Museum, Bad Blankenburg, Germany
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles
Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum at Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri
Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis
Tucson Museum of Art, Tucson, Arizona

■ **Cornelia Thomsen, *Unfolding Ratio* Exhibition Outline**

Exhibition Title	Cornelia Thomsen Solo Exhibition, <i>Unfolding Ratio</i>
Exhibiting Artist	Cornelia Thomsen
Dates	August 27 (Saturday) to September 24 (Saturday), 2022 *Closed on Sundays & Mondays, Open on Public Holidays
Venue	√K Contemporary (Root K Contemporary) Address : Minamicho 6, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo Tel : (+81) (0)3-6280-8808 / Email : info@root-k.jp
Exhibition Website	https://root-k.jp/exhibitions_en/cornelia-thomsen-unfolding-ratio/
Admission	Free
Organizer	√ k Contemporary
Co-Operation	Luca Scandinavia
Support	Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Japan



※Depending on the state of COVID-19, business days and hours are subject to change.

Please check updates on the √K Contemporary website, Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter periodically for updates.

About √K Contemporary

Guided by the notion that new art is generated from years of refinement, √K Contemporary deals mainly with contemporary art from the post-war period onwards. With an ethos colored by its roots in traditional art, √K Contemporary hosts and organizes various unique exhibitions and events that aim to provoke, stimulate, and evoke new thoughts and ideas. In conserving their acts, the gallery hopes to place themselves within and pave their way towards the future art scene.

Manifesting this notion, the 300sqm gallery space was envisioned as a "gallery from space", where works are shown with new values and viewed with new eyes. With innovation at its heart, √K Contemporary strives to become the next-generation art space that represents "the present of the future".

Official Website: <https://root-k.jp/en>

TW : [@rk_contemporary](#) | FB : [@rootkcontemporary](#) | IG : [@rk_contemporary](#)

For all Press & Media Related Inquiries

Contact: Naoko Watanabe, Aisei Tamura

√K Contemporary (Managed by SEI-RIN Co.,Ltd.)

6 Minamicho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, 162-0836

Tel: (+81) (0)3-6280-8808 | Fax: (+81) (0)3-6280-8809 | Email: pr@sei-rin.com