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jevouspropose#20 Billy Morgan: Lackadaisies marytwo vous propose Billy Morgan

Exhibition: 4 June – 13 July 2025 Opening: 4 June, 6 – 8 pm

Performance by Billy Morgan and Ruth Kottmann 14 June, 11 – 11.30 am

For jevouspropose#20, marytwo (non-profit artist-run space in Lucerne) proposes the Amsterdam-based artist Billy Morgan (UK, Cyprus).

Our first collaboration with Billy Morgan (*1994, London) took place in 2022 at marytwo in Lucerne, in their solo exhibition titled *In The Spirit Of The Place*. At its centre was *Taurus* (2022), a two-channel video work filmed in the municipality of Beromünster and the city of Lucerne, in which fictional personas speak, sing, and dance, carried by a text corpus that Morgan brought into the exhibition process. Other works included engraved texts on Glasi Hergiswil plates. Already then, Morgan's practice revolved around the encounter between fictional text and material site.

Three years later, *Lackadaisies* marks a renewed collaboration, this time at jevouspropose in Zurich, once again arriving with a dense, drifting body of fiction. The exhibition is anchored by a short novel of the same name, presented across eighteen A4 pages. Set in a dreamlike version of post-1968 Paris, the story follows Céline, a civil servant juggling three jobs and a buried desire to become a theatre critic. The narrative moves through collapsing institutions, street-level fantasies and reimagined monuments. Feminist icons wander in and out of view; bodies become sites of protest and pleasure. Some details are meticulously invented, others borrowed or overheard, folding the present into the past and history into imagination.

Encircling this text is an installation of hand-written textual fabrics titled *Red Letters* (2025), sourced from local second-hand shops, each bearing lines that resonate with the novel's universe but are not drawn from it directly. Instead, they extend its atmosphere with phrases responding to the surfaces they inhabit; floral motifs, printed stars and sack-like earthy tones. These draped and stapled textiles suggest fragments of letters and memory traces, engaging a material poetics of softness and reuse, aligning with practices of making-do and working-with. Gestures don't resolve into clarity but remain poetic, suggestive, open.

The title *Lackadaisies* plays with the accusation of laziness, long directed at the so-called "work-shy" generation of '68. Here, idleness is reimagined as a mode of resistance: a DIY idea of lightness and detour, a refusal of productivity-as-worth. It gently mocks the figure of the interventionist, street artist type hero, offering instead a quieter, less resolved form of politics, one that drapes, hums, forgets, and dreams. The exhibition concludes with *Taurus* re-installed in the rear space, looping voice and video back into the room. On the 14th of June, a live performance by Ruth Kottmann, who features in *Taurus*, and Billy Morgan will extend these textures into presence.

marytwo (Elvira Baettig and Jack Pryce)

The artist would like to thank Elvira Baettig, Lorenzo Garcia-Andrade, Stefa Gosiewsk, Sabina Kohler, Małga Kubiak, Guillaume Lamour, Sands Murray-Wassink, Zander Porter and Jack Pryce.

marytwo

marytwo is a non-profit artist-run space founded in 2022 by Elvira Baettig and Jack Pryce. Located in the historic district of Lucerne, marytwo serves as a platform for both national and international contemporary art, showing young and emerging, mid-career, established and rediscovered artists. We foster intergenerational exchange, creating opportunities for artists at different stages in their careers to exhibit together, benefit from collaborative encounters, and encourage an ongoing dialogue. marytwo supports artists by creating exhibitions ranging from a resolved body of work to projects featuring exploratory processes.

Currently, we are concluding our third season «Hattrick», which consisted of four exhibitions. For our first season, «We have to start somewhere», we opened an accompanying residency for artists in Beromünster, followed by the second season «Terrible Two». In August 2025, our fourth season «This is 4u», will reiterate what marytwo is – a carefully managed space with the following values shaping its identity: Inviting, recognisable, open, immediate, experimental. Our exhibitions are free and open to all. www.marytwo.one Elvira Baettig (*1997, Lucerne CH) and Jack Pryce (*1990, Shrewsbury UK) completed their BA with honours in Fine Arts at Zurich University of the Arts in 2021 before founding marytwo. Baettig is an artist currently enrolled in the MA Fine Arts at ZHdK and works between exhibition making and her own artistic practice. Pryce is a curator and artist. He is a jury and curatorial team member of Plattform and an Artistic Employee in the Bachelor of Fine Arts programme at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts.

Billy Morgan

Billy Morgan (UK, Cyprus) is an Amsterdam-based artist, born in London in 1994. Their interdisciplinary practice foregrounds the fictionality of the body and its splitness. The estrangement of established structures - linguistic, relational, erotic, atmospheric - is at its heart. This gesture pivots around language and embodiment as realms of agency, transition and contradiction.

Billy has most recently shared their work at prelude, Amsterdam (2025), Les Urbaines, Lausanne (2024), ICA, London (2024), ROZENSTRAAT, Amsterdam (2024), w Brzask, Warsaw (2024), koraï project space, Nicosia (2024), Chapter Arts Centre, Cardiff (2024), Guts Projects, London (2024), Stichting Perdu, Amsterdam (2023), marytwo, Lucerne (2022) and Juf Project, Madrid (2022).

jevouspropose

www.billymorgan.net

jevouspropose is a curatorial series by Sabina Kohler and accomplices.

Several times a year, jevouspropose invites a personality to propose an artist with a specific group of works. The works will be installed in the space of jevouspropose, celebrated with an opening and remain on view for a while. At the same time, the respective presentation is expanded and continued in virtual space: the proposer and the artist will have a chat, a visual ping-pong on the works and themes on display (instagram.com/je vous propose).



Opening hours during Zurich Art Weekend

Friday, 13 June, 11 am – 8 pm Saturday, 14 June, 11 am – 8 pm Sunday, 15 June, 11 am – 6 pm

Special Event

Saturday, 14 June, 11 – 11.30 am Performance by Billy Morgan and Ruth Kottman Please register at info@jevouspropose.ch