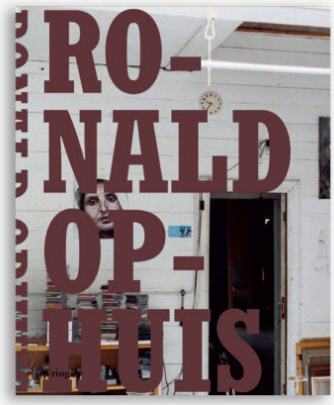
RONALD OPHUIS



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PAIN(FUL)TING

This new publication on the Dutch painter Ronald Ophuis (*1968) contains a selection of his works from the last 15 years. His paintings are made within the context of History painting and also reference the representation of violence in Western art. It may initially seem surprising that Ophuis' work has led to such emotional responses and controversies. His representations of an execution in a locker room, a miscarriage, a rape in Birkenau, seem to be contiguous with a highly respected Western and Christian painting tradition. But his work differs from this tradition by refusing any moral stance and by placing the viewer in an unsettling position.

The book was designed by Karel and Aagje Martens, and includes an essay by Ernst van Alphen.

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