

Ruben Müller:  
When Everything Falls

03 February – 17 February 2026



*Sheep Carrier*, 2025  
Ruben Müller

Huxley-Parlour is pleased to announce an exhibition of paintings by German artist Ruben Müller at the gallery's Swallow Street project space, opening February 2026. Presented as part of Conduit - Huxley-Parlour's new curated programme of two-week, solo exhibitions - this presentation marks Müller's first exhibition with the gallery and in the United Kingdom.

Müller's artistic practice searches for the eternal and unchanging within modernity, portraying anonymous figures engaged in everyday gestures. Drawing from the richly textured imagery of Old Master paintings and photographs from his personal experiences, he constructs scenes that balance recognition with the unknown. While seemingly familiar, his figures remain deliberately withheld, inviting viewers to project their own interpretations while ultimately resisting intimacy.

Across subdued, meticulously composed canvases, Müller evokes a sense of theatrical nostalgia. His paintings operate much like stages on which nothing overtly dramatic occurs, yet every detail is carefully orchestrated. Mundane actions gain quiet significance, set within atmospheres shaped by subtle tension, as if foreshadowing events just beyond the frame. Figures, animals and landscapes are rendered with both precision and restraint, their muted colour palettes and measured compositions reinforcing a mood of suspended anticipation.

Influenced by the writings of Italian philosopher Giorgio Agamben, particularly his reflections on continuing to live “as before” while the house is already burning, Müller depicts small, private moments unfolding against the persistent threat of a world on the brink. The presence of recurring animals and still-life motifs, such as lambs, calves and pomegranates, recall art-historical allegory without resolving into fixed meaning, suspending the works between symbolic reference and lived experience.

Literary sources further inform this element of Müller’s practice, particularly Daniel Kehlmann’s reflections on the distance between lived experience and symbolic worlds. In Kehlmann’s writing, reality can appear more inaccessible than the figurative world of images, where meaning follows its own internal logic. Müller’s paintings resonate with this idea, presenting the artistic space as a refuge that offers clarity. Within his works, figures exist inside symbolic systems of order and are subtly estranged from reality, suggesting that the artworks can function both as a sanctuary from contemporary life and as a lens through which it may be understood.

Müller was born in Mönchengladbach, Germany in 1990. He graduated from the University of Fine Arts Dresden with an MFA in 2019. Müller’s work has been exhibited internationally including at Galerie Ursula Walter, Dresden, the Stadtarchiv Dresden, the Landtag of North Rhine-Westphalia, Düsseldorf, the Usedomer Kunstverein, Heringsdorf, KLAGG Artspace, Dresden, Kunstquartier Bethanien, Berlin, Kunstverein Meißen, and participation in WIN/WIN at Museum Gunzenhauser, Chemnitz in 2024. Müller currently lives and works in Dresden, Germany.

#### ABOUT CONDUIT:

A curated programme of sixteen solo, two-week exhibitions at the gallery’s project space, on the lower ground floor of 3–5 Swallow Street. Running throughout 2026, it is established to highlight select international early-career artists, spanning a variety of media and practices. Each exhibition will mark the first presentation of the artist’s work with the gallery.

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CONDUIT AT HUXLEY-PARLOUR  
3–5 Swallow Street, London W1B 4DE

More information can be found online at [www.huxleyparlour.com/conduit](http://www.huxleyparlour.com/conduit)