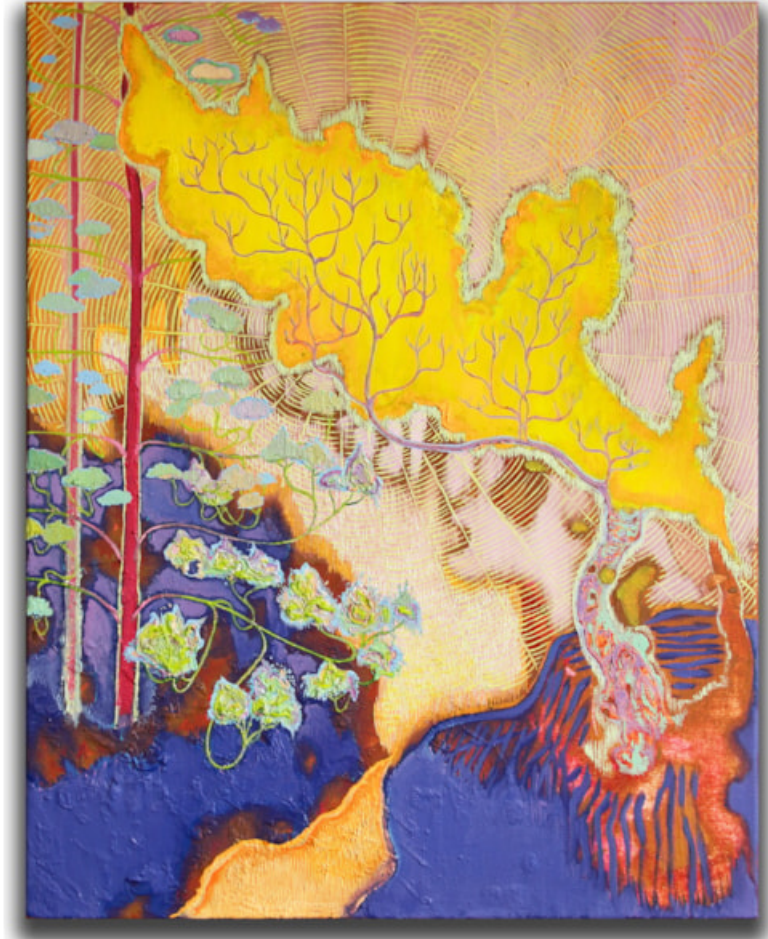


PAN

AMSTERDAM

GALERIE HELDER



The River is Rising

oil paint on canvas, 50x40cm, 2025, framed

Everything is possible in the paintings of Bas Wiegink (NL 1977). Nature gets the power to evolve. The sky reflects in fantastic colours, the earth radiates. Human traces testify to a certain 'civilization'. The message could be: 'do not be afraid of the future, because we will survive'.

Wiegink paints with a lot of contrasts in an exuberant romantic colour palette, sometimes even fluorescent. His cinematic and dreamy ways of painting add to fascinating pictures. Trees and plants grow wildly between buildings. The exuberant flora has taken up all space; sometimes you behold remains of human life. What is happening here?

In the background, we often see modern buildings painted in thin contours, as if they were abandoned or languished. At the front the flora flourishes with powerful, convincing touches in vivid colours. This contrast betrays the ambiguity of reality: a warning or an optimistic Arcadia.

Nevertheless, nature seems to survive unstirred. This survival force, including that of man himself, inspires Wiegink. Without any hint of melancholy in the work, everything seems so obvious. Here his admiration for architecture

coincides with that for the forces of nature.