

# Galerie Daniel Templon

Paris

ULRICH LAMSFUSS  
MODERN PAINTERS, June 2012



PRIVATE VIEW PARIS

## Honest Pictures

Ulrich Lamsfuss looks very carefully

"WHAT I REALLY LIKE from images is for them to shut up—that they are just as complex as the world. Art is wonderful if you manage to produce reality," says Berlin-based artist **Ulrich Lamsfuss**. His exhibition "Afternoons in Utopia" is on view June 9 through July 21 at **Galerie Daniel Templon** and features around 15 of his signature hyperrealistic paintings based on appropriated photographs as well as the artist's own staged arrangements. Gross-out depictions of waxy sausages and eggs are paired with a portrait of French author Michel Houellebecq, sandwiched between two gender-bending companions and reaching for a drink. The latter subject is populist in nature, according to the artist. "Houellebecq is really important in France. I'm in love with clichés, because you always enter dangerous territory. You don't know: Is it true? Is it a lie?"

Diversity of imagery is key. (Referring to his predilection for painting naked females, Lamsfuss admits that being known as "the boob painter" won't get him very far in the long run.) "If I like a picture, I paint it," he says. "I just try to be honest, not to have a trick. That's the difference between me and the Pictures Generation. I'm just looking at the image, maybe more carefully than the photographer." Carefully is right. Last year, only nine works left his studio as the canvases became larger and more detailed. For Lamsfuss, it's about getting off what he calls "the sensible hamster wheel" and creating his very own utopia with pictures and paint. —ALEXANDER FORBES

**Ulrich Lamsfuss**  
*Beawiharta/Reuters; Bagus Indahondo/EPA/DPA (View Sept. 2010); Protests in Slums in Jakarta, 2010.*  
Oil on canvas,  
19½ x 19½ in.