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		VERVOERBEWIJS BILLET		Ceulers, Michiel 01 VOLWASSENE	
CIV 1184 Geldig: 31/10/2012					
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VIA [1088]*ROSENDAAL(FR)[1184]*****					
NIET GELDIG IN THALYS EN FYRA TUSSEN AMSTERDAM EN BRUSSEL				PRIJS: EUR *** 40.40 *****	
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Back once again (Forever):

- Michiel Ceulers is concerned with the processes of painting, and, more specifically, with the handling and movement of paint on the canvas to ultimately show the physical and material residue of the act of painting.
- His artworks are previously realised in and around the studio, a space that marks the physical conflicts and attempts to control the canvas and the forms and structures he applies. The studio becomes a kind of sparring partner, spatially and physically, but is equally important as a container of (un)used materials that are re-applied: to inform and determine the process of making a new work.
- In other words: "What is it that an artist does when he is left alone in his studio? My conclusion was that if I was an artist and I was in the studio, then everything I was doing in the studio should be art... From that point on, art became more of an activity and less of a product." – Bruce Nauman
- For the exhibition *Back once again (Forever)*, Ceulers has created a number of grid-like paintings in different shapes, sizes, colours and materials. Through the application and removal of tape from the plane and the nature of oil paint, the rectilinear characteristic of the grid has become somewhat subjected to "error". In so doing, it reveals the inherent potential and possibilities of the material's properties and how they react: Ceulers conveys these concerns within the structure and surface of the canvas, and reveals its constrictions.
- Upon close encounter, the grids give the paintings a suggested interior by means of an optical bias, and have sculptural presence as evoked by the tactile relief of the remaining paint.
- The positive-negative dimension of the grid's relief is continued in the cardboard frame: to both evoke dimension and as a material that gives rise to a discussion on the notion of the "cheap material", an important aspect of Ceuler's practice in referencing both popular culture and other artistic practices.
- On a similar note we can address a distancing from a purely formalistic approach to a more significant, guiding (or misleading) set of references in the elaborate titles Ceulers gives to his paintings. These titles often hint song lyrics, movie quotes, word plays and puns, sometimes translated in another language for a different painting.
- In conclusion, *Back once again (Forever)* is a statement of transition: from the horizontal position of the painting in process to its vertical mounting on a wall, from the studio to the gallery, from the painterly to the sculptural, and certainly personal as well – as alluded to by this press release as ticket.
- Written and compiled by Niekolaas Johannes Lekkerkerk on the occasion of the exhibition *Back once again (Forever)* by Michiel Ceulers, taking place at Galerie Juliette Jongma from November 3 until December 22, 2012.

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