

## BALICEHERTLING

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presents

### Pernille Kapper Williams

advances, the more stripes invade the beaches: bathing suits and leisure clothes, bathrobes, towels, tents, parasols, wind breaks, deck chairs, shop awnings, children's toys, balls, sports bags, objects and accessories of all sorts. We must wait until the seventies, even the eighties, for the phenomenon to begin to slow down and then to decline. Without disappearing—far from it—striped decor then gradually gives way to other styles, first exotic (trying to evoke tropical beaches and the South Seas), and then "Californian" (adolescents and young people imposing here as everywhere their tastes and fashions).

Before that, between the thirties and the sixties, the proliferation of stripes on the beaches is accompanied by a certain de-aristocratizing. The seaside is no longer visited by only the wealthiest classes; other social groups gradually adopt the habits, customs, codes, fabrics, and clothes of those first vacationers. By spreading, fashions are compromised. Nevertheless, contrary to other kinds of decor, stripes are never proletarianized. Despite mass distribution, especially after World War II, stripes have nearly always retained a reputation for elegance and good taste. The snobbery of the stripe, which seems to have attained its height in about 1900–1920, has certainly disappeared, but for all that, the code hasn't been reversed. As a general rule, to appear on the beach dressed in stripes has often remained more or less "chic." Even if, as we have seen, there are stripes and there are stripes, and even if the slightest deviance from the norms of the moment, as far as the stripe's width, color, or texture is concerned, can relegate its wearer to the most ignominious vulgarity.<sup>86</sup>

The endurance of "chic" stripes is especially a matter of those combining white with one other color. The presence of white seems to confer on them a quality of unflinching neatness and freshness. Moreover, it

*Stripes for the Present Time* 73

From September 5th to October 4th 2008

Opening reception September 5th  
From 6 pm - 9pm

The gallery is open from Wednesday through Saturday from 2 to 7pm