

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Art Basel

Online Viewing Rooms

VIP Preview: 23 September,
noon CET - 25 September,
noon CET

Public Days: 25 September,
noon CET - 26 September,
midnight CET

Access the OVR

<https://www.artbasel.com/catalog/gallery/1121/Stephen-Friedman-Gallery>



To mark the unveiling of **Marina Adams** and **Jonathan Baldock's** solo institutional exhibitions in Autumn 2020, Stephen Friedman Gallery is delighted to present a selection of new works by each artist as part of Art Basel's Online Viewing Rooms 2020.

Expansive in scale, Marina Adams' work explores colour, form and movement in unabashed fashion. Her solo exhibition at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, Texas will open in November 2020, comprising large-scale paintings from the past four years alongside recent gouaches. The three new paintings displayed in the OVR are typical of her practice, featuring an array of vibrantly coloured forms and abstract configurations inspired by textile design, architecture and postmodern poetry. Luminous shapes act in harmony whilst also holding their own, alive with the potential to move and shift across the canvas. Adams joined the gallery roster earlier this year and will have her first solo show at Stephen Friedman Gallery in 2021.

Jonathan Baldock's work is saturated with humour and wit, as well as an uncanny, macabre quality that channels his longstanding interest in myth, folklore and the narratives associated with 'outsider' practices. His solo exhibition 'Me, Myself and I' opened at Kunsthall Stavanger in September 2020 following a solo show at Bluecoat, Liverpool earlier this year. A number of the works shown in the OVR are taken from 'Facecrime', a monumental installation comprising precariously stacked ceramic columns. The works are a continuation of Baldock's investigation into ruins, the language of emojis and the interaction of sound and sculpture. Drawing on the illusion of theatre and puppetry, new and unseen works from the artist's current show at Kunsthall Stavanger – encompassing life-size marionettes, fabric hangings and ceramics – will also be on view.

Marina Adams

Marina Adams (b. 1960, Orange, New Jersey) lives between New York and Parma, Italy.

Adams' paintings and works on paper feature vibrantly coloured shapes arranged in abstract configurations. The artist sketches out her compositions with charcoal before she begins to allow for experimentation whilst working; drips of paint and gestural brushstrokes break up vast expanses of colour on the canvas to reveal the artist's touch. Adams states, "I work in charcoal to get a sense of scale, of line and shape on the canvas. This frees me, so when I begin painting, there's already a space there; a space that I can get involved with in a direct way. And that frees the touch as well."

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Social Media

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In Artforum, Barry Schwabsky writes: "Color is just about everything in Adams' work, and everything seems animated, in movement. The energy impelling this motion is never agitated or frantic but rather feels steady, relaxed, and spontaneously responsive. Viewing her work is like being in the passenger seat next to a driver who knows how to take the road with supreme dexterity and implicit attentiveness; you feel safe at any speed."

Marina Adams (b. 1960, Orange, New Jersey) lives between New York and Parma, Italy. Adams is also represented by Salon 94, New York. The artist will have a solo exhibition at Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth in autumn 2020 and her first solo exhibition with Stephen Friedman Gallery in early 2021.

Adams earned a BFA from the Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia and an MFA from Columbia University, New York. Solo exhibitions of her work have been presented at Salon 94, New York; Galerie Gris, Hudson, New York; CUE Art Foundation, New York; and Magazzino d'Arte Moderna, Rome, Italy.

Adams received the Award of Merit Medal for Painting from the Academy of Arts and Letters and the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship.

Jonathan Baldock

Jonathan Baldock was born in 1980 in Kent, UK. He lives and works in London. He works across multiple platforms including sculpture, installation and performance. He graduated from Winchester School of Art with a BA in Painting (2000-2003), followed by the Royal College of Art, London with an MA in Painting (2003-2005).

Baldock has an ongoing interest in the contrast between the material qualities of ceramic and fabric in his work. Concerned with removing the functional aspects of the materials he uses, Baldock instead works in a performative way through his sculptural assemblages, bringing the viewer, the object and the space they simultaneously occupy into question as a theatrical or ritualistic act.

In the spring of 2019, Baldock's solo exhibition 'Facecrime' opened at Camden Arts Centre, London following a Freeland's Lomax Ceramics Fellowship. The exhibition toured to Tramway, Glasgow, UK in August 2019 and opened at Bluecoat, Liverpool, UK in March 2020. Baldock has forthcoming solo exhibitions at Accelerator, Stockholm, Sweden in April 2021 and La Casa Encendida, Madrid, Spain in September 2021. In October 2020, his work will be included in the inaugural Towner International biennial exhibition at Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne, England.

Other notable solo and two-person exhibitions include those at De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill, UK (2017); Grundy Art Gallery, Blackpool, UK (2017); Southwark Park Galleries, London, UK (2017); PEER, London, UK (2016); Chapter Gallery, Cardiff, Wales, UK (2016) and Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridge, UK (2013).

His work recently entered the Arts Council Collection, UK.

Contact us:

Sales: sales@stephenfriedman.com.

General enquiries: info@stephenfriedman.com.

Press: Carlotta Dennis-Lovaglio at carlotta@scott-andco.com.