

Simo Bacar

Viktor Fordell

Lineage

February 3 – March 4, 2023

Simo Bacar is delighted to announce the opening of *Lineage*, an exhibition by Viktor Fordell, the Swedish artist's first solo show with the gallery, presenting a selection of recent photographs, collages and paintings.

The works of Viktor Fordell reject the idea of subjectivity and style. His playful exploration of content - the multiplied, the anonymous, the everyday - suggests that images do not necessarily capture an isolated moment or revelatory composition. The viewer already knows what could materialize within a frame: nothing is unknown. Using bold stylistic variation and careful attention to subject matter Fordell plays with this idea as a prerequisite. The result is complex and self-referential images: individuals are generic, young, engaged in random activities; objects appear as things, without amplification or effect; bubbles and membranes appear to separate, to disengage. Is repetition a form of delay? This intricate 'disintegration of style' produces an uncanny effect that both mourns and resurrects the idea of documentary photography.

If ambiguity and doubt influence Fordell's photographic practice, his collage works operate entirely through seduction. Here he asks us simple questions: How does this make you feel? What belongs together? These condensed works on paper negate the static, offering the viewer a visual network of personal source material: abstract shapes, transparent film, newspaper clippings, garbage - nothing is unknown. Piled up - as if to saturate each work with time and memory - they illustrate both process and result, carefully encapsulating the decorative.

- Jesper Strömbäck Eklund

Viktor Fordell (b.1990, Stockholm) lives and works in Stockholm. The artist studied Fine Art at Konstfack, University College of Arts in Stockholm, and at the Academy of Fine Arts in Helsinki. His work has been the subject of exhibitions including: Decades, MEGA Foundation; Solna Centrum, The Loon, Toronto; Inmost Light, Sorbus, Helsinki; Memory, Loyal Gallery, Stockholm.

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Image Checklist

1. Viktor Fordell, *Lineage*, installation view. Courtesy of the artist and Simo Bacar
2. Viktor Fordell, *Lineage*, installation view. Courtesy of the artist and Simo Bacar
3. Viktor Fordell, *We made the team*, 2023, Archival pigment print, 23 x 34 cm (framed: 38 x 48 cm)
4. Viktor Fordell, *Lineage*, installation view. Courtesy of the artist and Simo Bacar
5. Viktor Fordell, *Close the eyes*, 2023, Paper bag, newspaper, inkjet-print, 22 x 36 cm
6. Viktor Fordell, *Lineage*, installation view. Courtesy of the artist and Simo Bacar

7. Viktor Fordell, *Well hello angel*, 2023, Archival pigment print, 29 x 21 cm (framed: 44 x 35 cm)
8. Viktor Fordell, *Lineage*, installation view. Courtesy of the artist and Simo Bacar
9. Viktor Fordell, *Lineage*, installation view. Courtesy of the artist and Simo Bacar
10. Viktor Fordell, *Samhälle*, 2023, UV-print on multiplex, 79 x 124 cm
11. Viktor Fordell, *Lineage*, installation view. Courtesy of the artist and Simo Bacar
12. Viktor Fordell, *A gift and a smile*, 2023, Archival pigment print, 29 x 21 cm (framed: 44 x 35 cm)
13. Viktor Fordell, *Lineage*, installation view. Courtesy of the artist and Simo Bacar
14. Viktor Fordell, *Lineage*, installation view. Courtesy of the artist and Simo Bacar
15. Viktor Fordell, *Lineage*, installation view. Courtesy of the artist and Simo Bacar
16. Viktor Fordell, *Lineage*, installation view. Courtesy of the artist and Simo Bacar
17. Viktor Fordell, *Bubbles*, 2023, Archival pigment print, 23 x 34 cm (framed: 38 x 48 cm)
18. Viktor Fordell, *The first seven are red*, 2023, Archival pigment print, acrylic, metal, glue, 22 x 29 cm (framed: 35 x 43 cm)
19. Viktor Fordell, *Sun*, 2023 Archival pigment print, artist frame, 37,5 x 47,5 cm
20. Viktor Fordell, *Lineage*, installation view. Courtesy of the artist and Simo Bacar
21. Viktor Fordell, *Lineage*, installation view. Courtesy of the artist and Simo Bacar
22. Viktor Fordell, *Untitled*, 2023, Acrylic on canvas, 46 x 60 cm
23. Viktor Fordell, *Lineage*, installation view. Courtesy of the artist and Simo Bacar