



6 September – 19 October 2024
54 White Street, New York, NY (US)

Fool's errand
Anthony Cudahy

GRIMM

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GRIMM and Hales are pleased to present *Fool's errand*, and *Fool's gold*, parallel solo exhibitions of new work by American artist Anthony Cudahy, on view at both New York galleries from 6 September to 19 October 2024.

Fool's errand marks the artist's third solo show with GRIMM, and follows his 2023 exhibition *Double Spar*, at the London gallery. *Fool's errand* and *Fool's gold* also follow on the heels of Cudahy's first institutional solo exhibition in the United States, *Spinneret*, on view at the Green Family Art Foundation in Dallas, TX (US) from 5 October 2024 to 26 January 2025, after previously showing at the Ogunquit Museum of American Art, ME (US).

Throughout his body of work, the artist explores themes of queer identity and intimacy, sourcing his imagery from photo archives, art history, film stills, hagiographic icons, and personal photographs. His paintings and drawings are crafted from various iterations of these vignettes, paying close attention to both color and composition, alongside an enduring commitment to his chosen mediums. His evocative figurative works elicit feelings of sensuality, safety, loneliness, and longing through an amalgamation of the artist's own autobiographical narratives, crafted mythologies, and extensive historical research.

Cudahy depicts his subjects engaged in mundane activities; gazing out a window, lounging on a sofa with a loved one, picking flowers, or simply 'taking a piss'. Faces and gestures are defined by bold hues that draw the eye to sensory details that are so often overlooked. For Cudahy, this close attention to color and texture are ways to push the narrative and emotive quality of each work. A bookshelf or a bouquet of flowers, become sites of play; offering up opportunities to explore different modes and histories of painting in a single object. By collating these everyday moments that transgress time, he showcases the exceptionality of the quotidian.

The titles selected for each show correspond to two well-known idioms, with Cudahy interpreting the role of 'the fool' as somewhat alike to being an artist. A 'fool's errand' describes the assignment of an impossible task to someone oblivious to the fact that their efforts will be fruitless.



Detail | *The Arsonist iii*, 2024

This is comparable to the self-assigned task of the painter and nods to the act of painting as an open-ended task with no definitive conclusion. 'The fool' can thus be a character who engages outside of normative parameters and approaches life from a different angle, with different aims. Similarly, 'fool's gold,' rather than its understanding to be cheap trickery or mimicry, could be celebrated and exalted. Like 'the fool,' an artist can harness their craft to define meaning in an uninhibited manner.

Both exhibitions present paintings and works on paper, with Cudahy dispersing pattern-like repetitions of figures, places, and details between them. Historical references from Modern British Art or the Italian and Dutch Renaissance, are deftly woven with recognizable spaces and characters from his everyday life. While works subtly responds to each other as a group, as familiar faces hover between unearthly landscapes or domestic settings, each piece successfully resonates on its own. Cudahy's compositions range from fractured to full, rendering his scenes such that viewers feel close to the threshold. As a result, his spaces feel both protected and tangible.



Anthony Cudahy in his studio, 2022 | Photo: Jack Pierson for W Magazine

About the artist

Anthony Cudahy (b. 1989 in Fort Myers, FL, US) received a BFA from Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY (US) in 2011 and completed an MFA at Hunter College, New York, NY (US) in 2020. He lives and works in Brooklyn, NY (US).

Forthcoming museum shows include *Like Night Needs Morning*, CAP Centre d'art de Saint-Fons (FR) on view from 17 September through 23 November 2024. *Spinneret* will travel to the Green Family Art Foundation, TX (US), opening in October 2024.

His work can be found in collections of the AkzoNobel Art Foundation, Amsterdam (NL); Baltimore Museum of Art, MD (US); Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University, CA (US); Dallas Museum of Art, TX (US); The Hort Family Collection, New York, NY (US); Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, FL (US); Kunstmuseum, The Hague (NL); Les Arts au Mur Artothèque de Pessac (FR); Museum of Contemporary Art North Miami, FL (US); Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY (US); and Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (NL), among others.

[GRIMM](#) represents the artist in collaboration with [Hales](#) and [Semiose](#).

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GRIMM



*Death instinct (for Bergman,
for Tarkovsky)*

2024

Oil on linen

121.9 x 304.8 cm | 48 x 120 in

GRIMM

Detail | *Death instinct (for Bergman, for Tarkovsky)*, 2024





The Arsonist iii
2024

Oil on linen
182.9 x 243.8 cm | 72 x 96 in

GRIMM





Ian and Alex
2024

Oil on linen
182.9 x 182.9 cm | 72 x 72 in

GRIMM





Charlie doubled
(fern spiral)
2024

Oil on linen, two panels
Left: 152.4 x 61 cm | 60 x 24 in
Right: 152.4 x 91.4 cm | 60 x 36 in

GRIMM

Installation view | *Fool's errand* | GRIMM, New York, NY (US), 2024





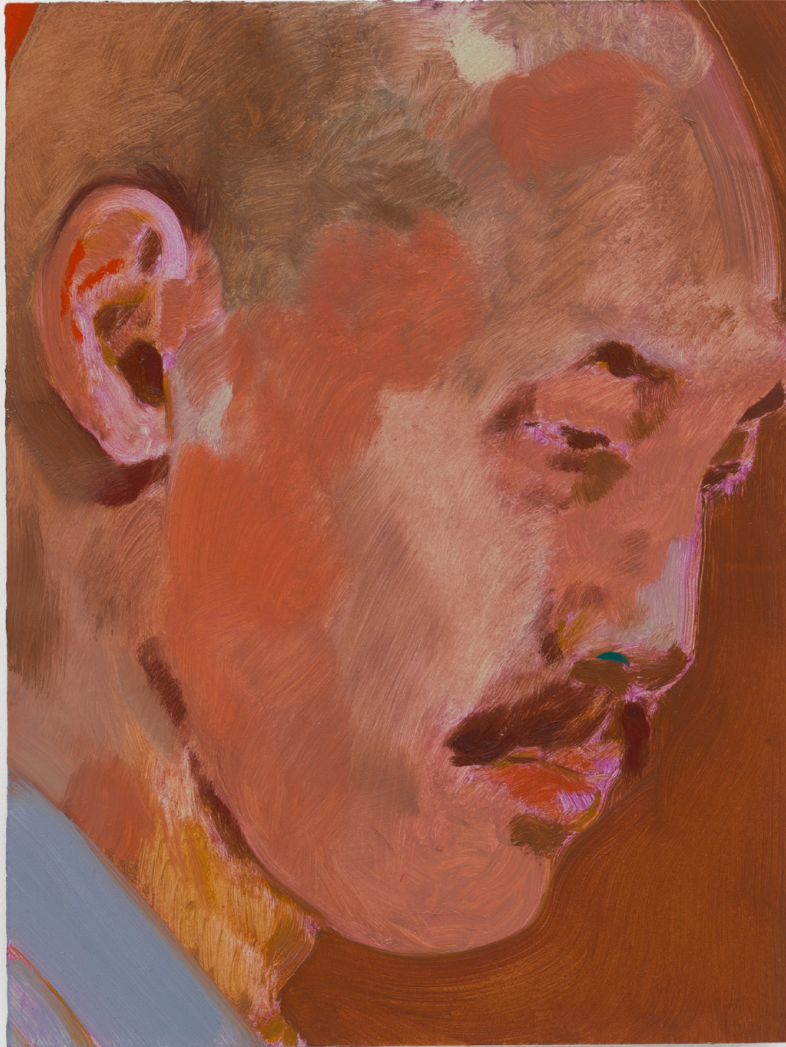
Self-portrait with parents
2024

Oil on linen
152.4 x 91.4 cm | 60 x 36 in

GRIMM

Detail | *Self-portrait with parents*, 2024





Violet Sammy
2024

Oil on board
30.5 x 22.9 cm | 12 x 9 in

GRIMM



Sammy
2024

Oil on linen
182.9 x 182.9 cm | 72 x 72 in

GRIMM



Mutating plant
2024

Oil on linen
182.9 x 61 cm | 72 x 24 in

GRIMM





Alex in Maine
2024

Oil on board
30.5 x 22.9 cm | 12 x 9 in

GRIMM



The dreamer
2024

Oil on board
22.9 x 30.5 cm | 9 x 12 in

GRIMM



2 + shadow, 2024
green socks, 2024



Color pencil on paper, framed
Left: 37.8 x 29.2 cm | 14 7/8 x 11 1/2 in
Right: 36.8 x 31.8 cm | 14 1/2 x 12 1/2 in

GRIMM



Ian (band of sun)
2024

Color pencil on paper, framed
38.7 x 37.8 cm | 15 1/4 x 14 7/8 in

GRIMM



Dowsing (studio)
2024

Oil on linen
243.8 x 182.9 cm | 96 x 72 in

GRIMM



The dreamer ii
2024

Oil on board
76.2 x 101.6 cm | 30 x 40 in

GRIMM



Dog and Knot
2024

Oil on linen
30.5 x 22.9 cm | 12 x 9 in

GRIMM



Eternal Lovers
2024

Oil on linen
30.5 x 40.6 cm | 12 x 16 in

GRIMM

Anthony Cudahy

2015 *Anthony Cudahy/Nick Van Zanten*, with Nick Van Zanten, the Dawn Hunter Gallery, Brooklyn, NY (US)

b. 1989 in Fort Myers, FL (US)

Lives and works in Brooklyn, NY (US)

EDUCATION

2020 MFA, Hunter College, New York, NY (US)

2011 BFA, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY (US)

RESIDENCIES AND AWARDS

2021 Hercules Studio Program, New York, NY (US)

2019 Kossak Painting Travel Grant (IT)

2013 AIR at the Artha Project, Brooklyn, NY (US)

2010 Pratt Presidential Scholarship (US)

2008 Rauschenberg Big Arts Scholarship (US)
Fenke Endowment

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024 *Spinneret*, Green Family Art Foundation, Dallas, TX (US) [forthcoming]

Fool's errand, GRIMM, New York, NY (US)

Fool's gold, Hales Gallery, New York, NY (US)

Spinneret, Ogunquit Museum of American Art, ME (US)

2023 *Double Spar*, GRIMM and Hales Gallery, London (UK)

Conversation, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Dole, Dole (FR)

2022 *a pearl caught between my teeth*, GRIMM, Amsterdam (NL)

2021 *Coral Room*, Hales Gallery, New York, NY (US)

Burn Across The Breeze, 1969 Gallery, New York, NY (US)

The Moon Sets A Knife, Semiose, Paris (FR)

2020 *Flames*, Semiose, Paris (FR)

2019 *Circle Game*, 1969 Gallery, New York, NY (US)

2018 *Night Paintings*, 1969 Gallery, New York, NY (US)

The Gathering, The Java Project, Brooklyn, NY (US)

2016 *NARSOLIPS*, Cooler Gallery, Brooklyn, NY (US)

EatF_3, Mumbo's Outfit, Geary Contemporary, New York, NY (US)

2015 *The Fourth Part of the Day*, Farewell Books, Austin, TX (US)

2014 *Heaven Inside*, Uprise Art Outpost, Chelsea, New York, NY (US)

TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2019 *Interior*, with Polina Barskaya, Monya Rowe Gallery, New York, NY (US)

Pale Horse, with Jenna Beasley, Mulherin, Toronto, ON (CA)

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024 *Les voix des fleuves, Crossing the water*, 17th Lyon Biennale, CAP Centre d'art de Saint-Fons (FR) [forthcoming]

Dog Days of Summer, Timothy Taylor, New York, NY (US)

Tulips, Kapp Kapp, New York, NY (US)

Good Morning, Midnight, The Roberts Institute of Art with The Courtauld Institute of Art, The Courtauld Gallery, London (UK)

When You See Me, Dallas Museum of Art, TX (US)

2023 *All Walks of Life*, PACE, Hong Kong (CN)

Friends & Lovers, FLAG Art Foundation, New York, NY (US)

The Moon and I, GRIMM, New York, NY (US)

Hales Project Room: Zürich, Hales Gallery, Zurich (CH)

Public Private, Pond Society, Shanghai (CN)

2022 *PERIPHERIES*, Newchild Gallery, Antwerp (BE)

Painters Painter Painters, curated by Bailey Summers, Green Family Foundation, Dallas, TX (US)

I is Other, Lyles & King, New York, NY (US)

2021 *Equal Affections*, GRIMM, Amsterdam (NL)

It Was Dark in His Arms, with Ian Lewandowski and Kenny Gardner, Deli Gallery, New York, NY (US)

Friend Zone, curated by Vaughn Spann, Half Gallery, New York, NY (US)

and I will wear you in my heart of heart, FLAG Art Foundation, New York, NY (US)

2020 *Intimate Companions*, organized by Joe Sheftel, Provincetown Arts Society, Provincetown, MA (US)

If on a winter's night a traveller, Mammoth, London (UK)

The Moon Seemed Lost, Hales Gallery, New York, NY (US)

2019 *TULIPS*, Kapp Kapp, Philadelphia, PA (US)

GIVE IT TO ME GOOD, 1969 Gallery, New York, NY (US)

THEM, Perrotin Gallery, New York, NY (US)

Summer Soup, Three Four Three Four, Brooklyn, NY (US)

I have always imagined that paradise will be a kind of library, Blake and Vargas, Berlin (DE)

A Little Tenderness, Gildar Gallery, Denver, CO (US)

Personal Spaces, Danese/Corey, New York, NY (US)

- 2018 *Sweet Cheeks*, Big Pictures, Los Angeles, CA (US)
Greenpoint Group Show, Harpy Gallery, Brooklyn, New York, NY (US)
Moments of Intimacy, with Doron Langberg and Kyle Coniglio, 68 projects, Berlin (DE)
Me, My Friends & I, 1969 Gallery, New York, NY (US)
Bathers, Bass & Reiner, San Francisco, CA (US)
Metaxis Uber Pool, HildeTX, Houston, TX (US)
- 2017 *Visible Scene*, Practice, New York, NY (US)
LOST IN THE WORLD, Mulherin Gallery, New York, NY (US)
CUDAHY/FRATINO/GLANTZ, Harpy Gallery, Rutherford, NJ (US)
- 2016 *Everything Real*, Hap Gallery, Portland, OR (US)
WILL YOU, Pratt Institute's Dekalb Gallery, Brooklyn, NY (US)
Plusachange, St. Josephs College, Brooklyn, NY (US)
Bindle, curated by Sorry Archive, Orgy Park, Brooklyn, NY (US)
Public/Private/Portrait, Mossless 4 release, Deli Gallery, L.I.C., New York, NY (US)
- 2015 *BLOOMSDAY*, the Knockdown Center, Queens, NY (US)
Say It With Flowers, Kimberly-Klark Gallery, Ridgewood, NY (US)
- 2014 *A Faintly Lit Light*, The Perfect Nothing Catalog, Brooklyn, NY (US)
And the Villagers Never Liked You Anyways, Sorry Archive at the Knockdown Center, Queens, NY (US)
Still Wearing Each Other When Alone, Vox Populi, Philadelphia, PA (US)
ANOTHER, Oranbeg Press, South Street Seaport, New York, NY (US)
HIGH TIDE, Dossier Outpost, New York, NY (US)
Nothing But Good Live, Park-Platform for Visual Arts, Tilburg (NL)
"What Is the Silver Lining?", TGIF Gallery, Brooklyn, NY (US)
- 2013 *Hot Bed*, TGIF Gallery, Brooklyn, NY (US)
The Pink Panther Imitates Nothing, RISD, Providence, RI (US)
CONTENT, ARTICA, Athens, GA (US)
Blonds, SOFTSPOT, SAXA, online
- 2012 *13A*, MOStudios, Brooklyn, NY (US)
Disaster 501: What Happened to Man?, Copenhagen Art Festival Permanent Collection Nancy Margolis Gallery, New York, NY (US)
Dream Continuum, Circuit 12, Dallas, TX (US)

PUBLICATIONS

- 2024 *Spinneret*, Monacelli with Ogunquit Museum of American Art, ME (US)
- 2023 *Double Spar*, Hales Gallery, London (UK)
Conversation, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Dole, Dole (FR)
- 2022 *a pearl caught between my teeth*, GRIMM, Amsterdam (NL)
- 2021 *The Moon Sets A Knife*, Semiose éditions, Paris (FR)
- 2019 *Circle Game*, self-published zine, New York, NY (US)
Moonwound, self-published zine, New York, NY (US)
- 2018 *i/i*, self-published zine, New York, NY (US)
iii, self-published zine, New York, NY (US)
Lurker, self-published zine, New York, NY (US)
Stone Clattered, self-published zine, New York, NY (US)
- 2017 *Snake on your path*, InkBrick, New York, NY (US)
Vigil (Rhythm) Vigil, Dashwood Books, New York, NY (US)
- 2016 *Villa of the Mysteries*, self-published zine
Slow Youth presents: *Double Spar*, New York, NY (US)
Narsolips, self-published zine, New York, NY (US)
- 2015 *The Fourth Part of the Day Is Already Gone*, Farewell Books, Austin, TX (US)
Mossless 4: Public Private/Portrait, Mossless in collaboration with ICP, New York, NY (US)
America 2020, A Journal of Comics Poetry, Special Issue, Ink Brick, Philadelphia, PA (US)
Our Time on the Moon, self-published zine in collaboration with Nicole Reber
L., self-published zine
- 2014 *Look and Despair*, Printed Matter Inc., Brooklyn, NY (US)
Heart of Gold, self-published zine in collaboration with Ian Lewandowski
Drawing 2013-2014, Perish Publishing, Toronto (CA)

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

- AkzoNobel Art Foundation, Amsterdam (NL)
Baltimore Museum of Art, MD (US)
Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University, CA (US)
Dallas Museum of Art, TX (US)
The Hort Family Collection, New York, NY (US)
Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, FL (US)
Kunstmuseum, The Hague (NL)
Les Arts au Mur Artothèque de Pessac (FR)
Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY (US)
Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (NL)