

**GALERIE TIMONIER**



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Bennet Schlesinger

I Too Am

December 12th 2024 - January 25th 2025

Galerie Timonier is pleased to present I too am, Schlesinger's interpretation of Pier Paolo Pasolini's eponymous poem.

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I Too Am...

I too am on the way to the Caracalla Baths,  
thinking with my old  
stupendous privilege of thinking...

(And to think that a god  
may still be in me,  
bewildered, feeble, child-like,  
but his voice so human,  
almost like a song).

Ah, to escape this prison of misery!  
To free oneself from the anxiety that makes  
these ancient nights so stupendous!  
Something's there to be shared  
by those who know longing and those who don't.

Man has humble desires:

First of all, an immaculate shirt.

First of all, good shoes, proper clothing!

And a house in a district where people don't bother you,  
an apartment in full sun  
with three or four rooms and a balcony,  
secluded, but with roses and lemons...

Alone to the bone, I too have dreams  
that keep me anchored in the world,  
glancing at it as if I  
were only an eye...

I dream of my house on the Gianicolo  
near Villa Pamphili,  
green all the way to the sea,  
a penthouse full of old sun,  
always cruelly new in Rome.  
I'd build a veranda on the balcony  
with dark curtains, of impalpable cloth.  
I'd have a light custom-made table  
placed in a corner  
with a thousand drawers,  
one for each manuscript  
so as not to violate  
the insatiable hierarchies of my inspiration...  
Ah, a bit of order, a bit of sweetness  
in my work, in my life...  
All around I'd put seats and armchairs,  
together with a small antique table  
and a few old paintings by cruel mannerists,  
with golden frames, set against  
the bare structure of the veranda.  
In the bedroom a simple bed,  
flowery bedspreads woven by women  
from Calabria or Sardinia.  
Here I'd hang the paintings I still love:  
next to my Zigaina, a beautiful Morandi,  
a Mafai of the forties, a De Pisis,  
a small Rosai, a large Guttuso...

from Roman Poems (translation by Francesca Valente and Lawrence Ferlinghetti)  
City Lights Publishers (January 1, 1986)

**Bennet Schlesinger** (b. 1987, Costa Mesa, CA) is a Ventura and Costa Mesa-based artist. Recent exhibitions include: Karma (New York); Entrance Gallery (New York); the former Signal Gallery (New York); Sebastian Gladstone (Los Angeles); Soft Opening (London) and Marta (Los Angeles).





**Untitled Light Sculpture**  
ceramic, bamboo, paper, brass, and lighting components  
26 3/8 x 14 1/4 x 14 1/4 in. | 67 x 36.2 x 36.2 cm.  
Executed in 2024





**Untitled Light Sculpture**  
ceramic, bamboo, paper, brass, and lighting components  
15 1/4 x 10 1/8 x 9 7/8 in. | 38.7 x 25.7 x 25.1 cm.  
Executed in 2024







**Sconce**  
ceramic, bamboo, paper, brass, and lighting components  
14 3/8 × 5 1/2 × 7 in. | 36.2 × 14 × 17.8 cm.  
Executed in 2024



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**Picture Sconce**  
ceramic, bamboo, paper, brass, and lighting components  
14 3/8 × 5 1/2 × 7 in. | 36.2 × 14 × 17.8 cm.  
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ceramic, bamboo, paper, brass, and lighting components  
14 3/8 × 5 1/2 × 7 in. | 36.2 × 14 × 17.8 cm.  
Executed in 2024





**Picture Sconce**  
ceramic, bamboo, paper, brass, and lighting components  
14 3/8 × 5 1/2 × 7 in. | 36.2 × 14 × 17.8 cm.  
Executed in 2024



**Bookcase**  
walnut, and ceramic  
36 x 8 1/2 x 32 in. | 91.4 x 21.6 x 81.3 cm.  
Executed in 2024



THE POCKET POETS SERIES  
**LUNCH  
POEMS**  
by  
Frank O'Hara  
NORMAN SMITH



Library Cart  
walnut, ceramic, bamboo, paper, brass, and lighting components  
cart:  
28 3/4 x 11 7/8 x 37 7/8 in. | 70.5 x 30.2 x 96.2 cm.  
lamp:  
19 1/2 x 5 1/8 x 5 1/8 in. | 49.5 x 13 x 13 cm.  
Executed in 2024



Low Stool  
walnut, and ceramic  
13 5/8 x 11 7/8 x 17 1/4 in. | 34.6 x 30.2 x 43.8 cm.  
Executed in 2024



Low Stool  
walnut, and ceramic  
13 5/8 x 11 7/8 x 17 1/4 in. | 34.6 x 30.2 x 43.8 cm.  
Executed in 2024





**Writer's desk**  
West African cherry, and ceramic  
27 7/8 x 20 3/4 x 45 1/8 in. | 70.8 x 62.8 x 114.6 cm.  
Executed in 2024





Writer's chair  
West African cherry, and ceramic  
32 7/8 x 16 1/2 x 17 1/8 in. | 83.3 x 41.9 x 45.4 cm.  
Executed in 2024





Coffee table  
charred poplar, and ceramic  
13 5/8 x 31 3/4 x 52 3/4 in. | 34.5 x 79.3 x 134 cm.  
Executed in 2024



**Daybed**  
walnut, upholstery, and ceramic  
24 x 35 1/4 x 70 1/8 in. | 60.9 x 89.5 x 178.1 cm.  
Executed in 2024