

Bonner Kunstverein announces an exhibition of new paintings and ceramics by the American artist Josh Smith.

Drawing upon a broad range of traditions in painting, both figurative and abstract, Josh Smith's output is diverse whilst remaining stylistically distinct. His fluid, dynamic compositions are characterised by their expressive brushstrokes, calligraphic line and intensity of colour. This latest body of work comprises both abstract and representational paintings in two distinct groups that were developed at the same time. They will be presented together with over 60 small ceramic sculptures that were made over the past two years. Representing a broad range of subjects that encompass both the familiar and prosaic as well as the exotic and macabre these sculptures include studies of leaves, armadillos, palm trees, volcanoes, swamps, basketballs, bottles of vodka and anti-freeze, severed hands and internal organs.

This is Smith's first solo exhibition in Germany.

Josh Smith (b. 1976, Okinawa) studied at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee and Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. Solo exhibitions of his work have been presented at Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Rome (2015); De Hallen Haarlem and Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève (both in 2009) and the Museum of Modern Art, Ludwig Foundation (MUMOK), Vienna (2008). His work has featured in significant international surveys including *'The Forever Now: Contemporary Painting in an Atemporal World'* at the Museum of Modern Art New York (2014); *'The Painting Factory: Abstraction after Warhol'* at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (2012) and the 54th Venice Biennale (2011). Smith's work is also part of *'Painting 2.0: Expression in the Information Age'*, currently at the Brandhorst Museum, Munich. His paintings are held in public collections at the Centre Pompidou, Paris; Museum of Modern Art, Ludwig Foundation (MUMOK), Vienna; the Museum of Modern Art and The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York.

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