

Manet, Hanneman, Mieris, Chardin, Michaelina Woutiers, Hans Heyerdahl, Rembrandt, they all painted young boys or putti blowing bubbles with a pipe or a straw. The bubbles often mingled with faded flowers or rotten fruit, cracked pottery, symbols of fame, snails, bugs, symbols of wealth, smoke. Occasionally the boys held the bubble in a sea shell, remnants of a once living creature. Tipped over glasses replaced the bubble here and there. In Jacques de Gheyn the Elder's *Vanitas Still Life* from 1603 — an early *homo bulla* painting — different objects were floating in the bubble, or were reflected, such as a wheel of torture, a leper's rattle, a broken glass, a flaming heart. Bubbles were considered entertainment in the 18th century, they were seen as spectacular, they still are, like everted eyeballs.

– Matias Faldbakken

Matias Faldbakken (b. 1973, Hobro, Denmark) lives and works in Oslo. This is his sixth solo exhibition at the gallery. Current and recent solo exhibitions include *“Effects of Good Government in the Pit”*, Astrup Fearnley Museum, Oslo; House of Gaga // Reena Spaulings Fine Art, Los Angeles; Galerie Neu, Berlin; Le Mur, Paris; Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich; Paula Cooper Gallery, New York; WIELS, Brussels; OCA Office for Contemporary Art, Oslo; Le Consortium, Dijon. Current and recent group exhibitions include *“here / there / where”*, FRAC Bourgogne, Burgundy; Gwangju Biennale, Gwangju; Yinchuan Biennale, Yinchuan; *“Seeable/ Sayable”*, Kunsternes Hus, Oslo; *“Collected by Thea Westreich Wagner and Ethan Wagner”*, Centre Pompidou, Paris and Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; *“Naturally Obscure”*, Centre d'Art Contemporain Passerelle, Brest; *“Use/User/Used/”*, Zabłudowicz Collection, London; DOCUMENTA (13), Kassel. Faldbakken's most recent novel *“The Hills”* was published by Forlaget Oktober in September 2017.

STANDARD (OSLO) is also proud to announce that Matias Faldbakken opened a solo exhibition at the Astrup Fearnley Museum September 21st, 2017 which is up until January 28th, 2018.

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