

If the Moon Had a Mouth It Would Swallow All the Fishes

Stephen Felton

Location

Florit/Florit Gallery
C. de la Reina María Cristina, 10
Palma de Mallorca

Opening

June 4, 2026.
6 pm – 10 pm

On view

June 4 - September 11, 2026
Mon-Fri / 9 am – 5 pm



Installation view, "If the Moon Had a Mouth It Would Swallow All the Fishes", Stephen Felton. Florit/Florit, Mallorca, 2026
Photo: Juan David Cortés. Courtesy of the artist and Florit/Florit

Short text

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Exhibition Text

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Yet their point of departure lies elsewhere: in the mystery of Renaissance painting, where an image can open onto something beyond.

His scenes often unfold between sky and earth. Rain, water and serpents pass between them, linking what appears above with what waits below. The white surface becomes a field of brightness, while rays of colour concentrate light into something close to an apparition.

In Felton's paintings, this sense of wonder is condensed into just a few signs, each holding more than it shows. Writing on his work, Andrew Berardini draws an analogy with a landscape seen from an airplane window: distant and flattened, almost unreal, yet still containing all the weight and detail of the world below — trees, streets, buildings, even that bubble gum fallen to the bottom of the bottom drawer. "Out of sight, perhaps, but not out of mind. It's all there — almost all of it — beneath the skinny line of that surface."

Something similar happens materially in Felton's process. He tries to make each image in one direct gesture. If it does not convey what he is seeking, he covers it with seven layers of white paint and begins again. A single work may therefore hold several hidden images beneath the final form.

In Felton's work, what remains visible extends beyond itself. It is deepened by what has been covered over, by what each painting leaves open to the imagination, and by the relations between one work and another, keeping the mystery alive.

Text by: Madi Canals

STEPHEN FELTON | Biography

Stephen Felton (Buffalo, New York, 1975) lives and works in New York.

His paintings may appear to consist of basic, playful images made of coloured lines on vast white canvases. Yet his work is concerned with narrative, personal documentary and lived experience. He produces artefacts as symbols of the particular moments in which they were made, developing a language of painting that is raw, direct and individual.

Stephen Felton studied at the Massachusetts College of Art and the San Francisco Art Institute. His work has been presented internationally in solo exhibitions at Centre d'art Pasquart, FRAC Champagne-Ardenne, MAMCO, Le Confort Moderne and Villa du Parc. He has also participated in group exhibitions at Centre Pompidou-Metz, Artists Space and Paula Cooper Gallery, as well as at Frieze New York. His work is held in public collections including Centre Pompidou, MAMCO and FRAC Champagne-Ardenne, and a monograph on his work is currently in preparation.

More information

[Artist's profile](#)

[Barry Schwabsky, "Stephen Felton", Artforum, 2026](#)

["Stephen Felton: Bugaboo Voodoo", Kunsthaus Biel / Centre d'art Bienne, 2024](#)

[Images available for publishing](#)

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