

JOE BRADLEY

TOBIAS PILS

15.09.2021 - 23.10.2021

CAPTAIN PETZEL

Karl Marx Allee 45

10178 Berlin



Capitain Petzel is pleased to announce the joint exhibition of painters Joe Bradley and Tobias Pils on the occasion of Gallery Weekend *Discoveries. This exhibition marks the American artist Joe Bradley's debut in the Berlin gallery, as well as the first time the two befriended artists' work is being brought into dialogue with one another.

Bradley's explosive and colorful abstract paintings meet Pils' grey-toned, suggestively figurative scenes, revealing surprising contrasts and similarities between their respective individual and unique practices. Additionally, selected works on paper by Bradley and Pils are on view in the lower exhibition space, providing insight into a further dimension of the artists' oeuvres and making apparent the slight sense of irony and humor which forms the common ground of the exhibition.

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Joe Bradley

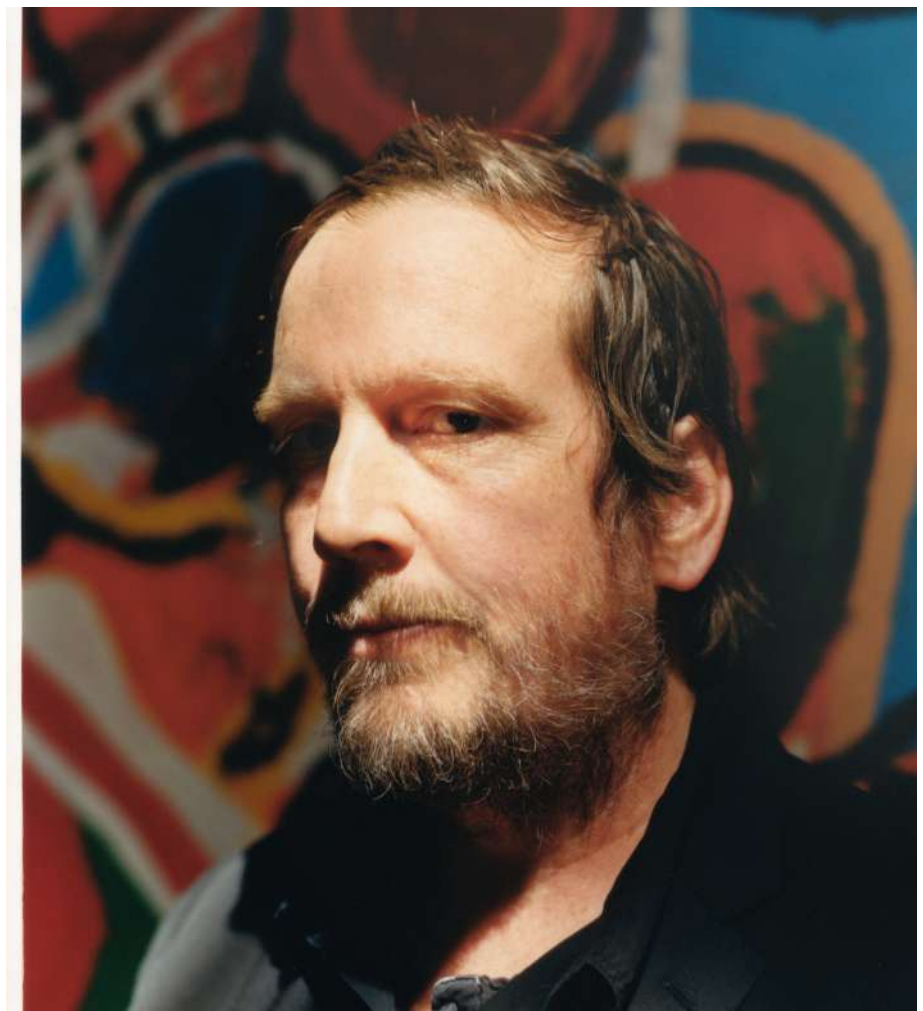
Born 1975 in Kittery, ME

Lives and works in Avignon, France

Joe Bradley's versatile painterly practice defies easy categorization as he deftly moves across artistic movements and modes, weaving together personal and art historical references in his irreverent, self-assured style.

Bradley usually creates his improvisational, mixed-media canvases unprimed and unstretched on his studio floor, leading the finished paintings to bear the traces of the artistic process they underwent. Unconventional materials surface in the finished works, some even bearing seams where fragments of canvas have been stitched together in a collage-like manner. Figuration features to varying degrees across Bradley's oeuvre, employing both geometric and organic forms, sometimes iconography, while other times engaging in a more minimalist painting tradition with monochrome swaths of color. Swaying always between earnestness and irony in his expression, Bradley continually provides a unique take on abstract painting and Western artistic traditions.

Joe Bradley's (b. 1975 in Kittery, ME) work has been shown at various institutions worldwide, including Albright Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY; Kunstmuseum Bonn; Bozar / Center of Fine Arts, Brussels; Whitney Museum of American Art (2008 Whitney Biennial); Le Consortium, Dijon, Museum of Modern Art; New York; MoMA PS1, Long Island, NY, among others.





Tobias Pils

Born 1971 in Linz, Austria

Lives and works in Vienna, Austria

Tobias Pils' suggestive figurations are neither entirely legible nor altogether abstract, but rather create associative worlds of forms that appear as paradoxes that resist a straightforward reading. Out of a reduced palette of varied grey tones Pils creates paintings that vibrate with texture, filled with unexpected depths and infinite tones.

Following intuition and disregarding strict methodology, Pils intuitively pursues his ideas as they evolve during their making. He says of his process: "When I start to paint, I have quite a clear idea of the motive ... the goal is to lose the idea through painting." The viewer is confronted with unexpected iconography and motifs that then seemingly take several directions at once and create compositions of interpretive ambiguity that invite deeper contemplation. His body of work is diverse and complex, however an undefined narrative nevertheless runs through it, appearing as scenes of a cryptic dream. Pils has also worked in large-scale installation, most recently having painted a mural at the École normale supérieure Paris-Saclay in 2020. He has also presented his paintings in large, unified works, at the Musée Picasso Paris in 2020, as well as at Basel Unlimited in 2016 and Secession, Vienna in 2013.

Tobias Pils (b. 1971 in Linz, Austria) has shown extensively and internationally, recent institutional exhibitions include mumok, Vienna; Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich; Musée Picasso Paris; Kunstmuseum Bonn; Le Consortium, Dijon; Aspen Art Museum; Kunsthalle Krems; Chinati Foundation / John Chamberlain Building, Marfa; National Art Museum of China, Beijing, among others.



