



LESLIE SMITH III

The Depth of Thoughts : New Abstractions

03. 09 - 16. 10. 2022

Vernissage le samedi 3 septembre 2022
Opening on Saturday September 3rd 2022

* Leslie Smith III, *Spring Kept Its Promise Once Again*, 2021, Huile sur toile sur châssis découpés, 161,5 x 192 cm

LESLIE SMITH III

The Depth of Thoughts : New Abstractions

Du 3 septembre au 16 octobre 2022

Leslie Smith III s'intéresse à notre effort conscient d'altération de notre perception : ses peintures et œuvres sur papier explorent les thèmes de la compatibilité, du ressentiment, de la transparence et de l'opacité, comme autant de personnages influençant nos interactions.

Peintre afro-américain, Leslie Smith III propose une nouvelle interprétation de l'abstraction contemporaine, de sensibilité différente de celle des années 1950 et 1960, dérivée d'une vision alternative du monde, faite d'inclusion et d'acceptation, qui s'inscrit dans une quête de déstigmatisation de l'altérité. Il s'intéresse aux propriétés subjectives et politiques inhérentes à l'abstraction qu'il considère comme facteurs d'émancipation des minorités noires.

Suggérant nos identités complexes à multiples facettes, les peintures de Leslie Smith III sont composées de plusieurs toiles et châssis individuellement découpés, façonnés, assemblés agissant comme les fragments d'un tout. Chacune de ces « citations » singulières crée des rencontres picturales souvent disparates, contrastées, constituant un corpus d'archives, à la recherche d'une esthétique stimulante, mais familière. La peinture devient ainsi un objet tridimensionnel médiateur d'expériences sensibles, au-delà de la planéité.

Pour sa deuxième exposition à la galerie *The Depth of Thoughts: New Abstractions*, Leslie Smith III nous invite à la contemplation, au temps long, à la perception accrue de l'esprit. Si les pensées sont souvent fugaces, beaucoup sont profondément enracinées. Elles reflètent notre approche de la compréhension du monde et la conscience que nous avons de nous-mêmes, pour mieux révéler harmonie et tension, discordance et convergence.

À travers ses récentes compositions Leslie Smith III explore ainsi des réflexions sur l'être, où s'expriment les notions de perte, de désir, d'attente ...

Leslie Smith III est né en 1985 à Silver Springs, Maryland. Il vit à Madison, Wisconsin.

Expositions personnelles (sélection) : *Stranger days*, Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, Alabama (2022) ; *Locus of Control*, Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, Alabama (2017) ; *As I Remembered*, beta pictoris gallery / Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, Alabama (2014) ; *I Dream Too Much*, Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, Wisconsin (2013).

Exposition collectives (sélection) : (À venir) *Anyone Can Move a Mountain*, Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, Alabama (2022) ; *Darker than Blue*, Maus Contemporary Gallery, Birmingham, Alabama (2021) ; *Night in America*, Maus Contemporary Gallery, Birmingham, Alabama (2020) ; *Aftereffect: Georgia O'Keeffe and Contemporary Art*, Museum of Contemporary Art Denver, Denver, Colorado (2019) ; *Black In The Abstract Part II: Hard Edges/Soft Curves*, cur.Valerie Cassel Oliver, Bill Arning & Dean Daderko, Contemporary Art Museum Houston, Houston, Texas (2014) ; *Parallax Futured: Transtemporal Subjectivities*, Skirball Museum, Cincinnati, Ohio (2014).

Ses œuvres figurent dans de nombreuses collections privées et les collections permanentes du High Museum of Art d'Atlanta, du Virginia Museum of Fine Art de Richmond, du Birmingham Museum of Art, de l'Abroms-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts de Birmingham ainsi que du FRAC Auvergne (2021).

Leslie Smith a obtenu un BFA au Maryland Institute College of Art ainsi qu'un MFA (Master of Fine Art) à la Yale School of Art. Il est nommé Professeur de peinture et de dessin à l'Université du Wisconsin-Madison en 2022.



Leslie Smith III, *Blue Walk*, 2022
Huile sur toile sur châssis découpés, 86,36 x 135,89 cm



Leslie Smith III, *Blue Walk*, 2022
(détail)



Leslie Smith III, *A Silly While*, 2022
Huile sur toile sur châssis découpés, 91,5 x 100,3 cm



Leslie Smith III, *Out of the Rain*, 2022
(détails)



Leslie Smith III, *Out of the Rain*, 2022
Huile sur toile sur châssis découpés, 134,92 x 109,22 cm

LESLIE SMITH III

Né en 1985 à Silver Springs, Maryland, États-Unis.
Vit et travaille à Madison, Wisconsin, États-Unis.

FORMATION

- 2009 Master en Peinture et Gravure / Master of Fine Arts,
Yale University.
2007 Licence en Peinture et Histoire de l'Art / Bachelor of Fine
Arts, Maryland Institute College of Art.

EXPOSITIONS PERSONNELLES

- 2022 *Stranger days*, Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, Alabama,
US.
2020 *We still play with blocks: Paintings from 2014-17*, Hawthorn
Contemporary, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, US.
Strangers, Galerie Isabelle Gounod, Paris, France.
2017 *Locus of Control*, Maus Contemporary, Birmingham,
Alabama, US.
Redaction, 'sindikit project, Baltimore, Maryland, US.
2016 *Time Further Out*, Galleria Ponce+Robles, Madrid, Espagne.
2015 *Vivir en la tierra plana (Living In The Flat Land)*, Galleria
Ponce+Robles, Madrid, Espagne.
2014 *Vacation*, Olive DeLuce Gallery, Northwest Missouri State
University, Maryville, Missouri, US.
As I Remembered, beta pictoris gallery /
Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, Alabama, US.
Opposing Dysfunction, Wriston Art Galleries. Lawrence
University, Appleton, Wisconsin, US.
2013 *I Dream Too Much*, Madison Museum of Contemporary Art,
Madison, Wisconsin, US.
2012 *Leslie Smith III: Representation, Abstraction, Oscillation*,
Dean Jensen Gallery, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, US

EXPOSITIONS COLLECTIVES (SÉLECTION)

- 2022 *Anyone Can Move a Mountain*, Maus Contemporary,
Birmingham, Alabama, US.
OFFSIGHT, James Fuentes Gallery, New York, US
7 - 5 Exhibition, Grand Marais Art Colony, Grand Marais,
Main, US
2021 *Darker than Blue*, Maus Contemporary Gallery, Birmingham,
Alabama, US.
2020 *Night in America*, Maus Contemporary Gallery, Birmingham,
Alabama, US
Les Analogues, Galerie Isabelle Gounod, Paris, France.
2019 BIENVENUE Art Fair, Stand Galerie Isabelle Gounod, Paris,
France.
EXPO Chicago 2019, section EXPOSURE, Stand Maus
Contemporary Gallery, Chicago, US.
Aftereffect: Georgia O'Keeffe and Contemporary Art,
Museum of Contemporary Art Denver, Denver, Colorado.
tel un geste captivant la lumière, cur. : Guido Maus, Galerie
Isabelle Gounod, Paris, France.
Drawing Now Paris, Stand Galerie Isabelle Gounod, Paris,
France.
2018 *Change Agent*, Patrick Mikhail Gallery, Montréal, Canada.
2017 *Echo Spectrum*, Trestle Gallery, Brooklyn, New York.
Minimal Gestures, Galerie Heike Strelow, Frankfurt,
Allemagne.
2016 *Losing My Edge: New Perspectives in Abstract Figurative
Painting*, University of Montevallo, Alabama.
ARCOmadrid, Madrid, Espagne.
Volta NY, New York, US.

- 2015 Volta11, Basel, Suisse.
2014 *Black In The Abstract Part II: Hard Edges/Soft Curves*,
cur.Valerie Cassel Oliver, Bill Arning & Dean Daderko,
Contemporary Art Museum Huston, Houston, Texas, US.
Monochromatic, Triumph & Disaster, Montgomery, Alabama.
Parallax Futured: Transtemporal Subjectivities, Skirball
Museum, Cincinnati, Ohio, US.
Pulse New York Contemporary Art Fair, New York, US.
Volta10, Basel, Suisse.
2013 *Wisconsin 30*, Milwaukee Museum of Art, Milwaukee,
Wisconsin, US.
pulp 3, works on paper - works with paper, beta pictoris
gallery / Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, Alabama, US.
Big Bangs / Small Bucks Redux, Dean Jensen Gallery,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, US.
Texas Contemporary Art Fair, Houston, Texas, US.
ArtPad SF Art Fair, San Francisco, California, US.
2012 *Voices of Home*, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, New York, US.
Voices of Home, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco,
California, US.
25 for 25, Dean Jensen Gallery, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, US.
2011 *Intersecting Cultures / Virtual Worlds*, Underground Gallery,
Miami, Florida, US.
Two Men 2011: Tim Roseborough & Leslie Smith III, Strivers
Gardens Gallery, New York, US.
2010 *In/Ex*, Gallery M, New York, US.
Balls, Obsidian Arts, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
Joel Dean, Fabienne Lasserre, Leslie Smith III, Jolie Laide
Gallery, Philadelphie, Pennsylvanie, US.
2009 *Emerge CT: 2009 MFA Graduates from UConn*, Western
Connecticut State and Yale, Stamford, Connecticut, US.
Yale University School of Art M.F.A. Thesis Show,
New Haven, US.
2008 *Verge*, Galapagos Art Space, New York, US.
2007 *Visions of Conflict: Rendering Dissent*, Gormley gallery
College of Notre Dame, Baltimore, Maryland, US.
MAEF Juried Exhibition | Baltimore Museum of Art,
Baltimore, Maryland, US.
Maryland Institute College of Art B.F.A. Thesis Show,
Baltimore, Maryland, US.
2006 Taylor Companies Retrospective Show, Taylor Companies,
Washington DC, US.

PRIX & BOURSES

- 2009 American Academy in Rome, AI Held Affiliate Fellowship,
Rome, Italie
2007 Best in show, Maryland Artist Equity Foundation Juried
Exhibition, Baltimore Museum of Art, Maryland
2006/07 Freda Eichelberger Scholarship
2003/07 Thailheimer Scholarship
2003/07 ARTS Scholarship, MICA / Maryland Institute College of Art
2003 National Foundation for the Advancement in the Arts -
Finalist and Scholarship recipient

COLLECTIONS

- Abroms-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts, Birmingham, AL, US.
Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, AL, US.
FRAC Auvergne, Clermont-Ferrand, France.
High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA, US.
Virginia Museum of Fine Art, Richmond, VA, US.

BIBLIOGRAPHIE (SÉLECTION)

- Salas, Rafael Fransisco «Abstracting Lived Experiences: A review of Leslie Smith III at Hawthorn Contemporary» New City Art: Visual Art Culture of Chicago and Beyond, January, 2021
- McAdams, Shane «Leslie Smith III at Hawthorn Contemporary: Painting or Sculpture?» Shepherd Express, October 2020.
- Kordic, Angie "At EXPO Chicago 2019, An Abstract Dialog Hosted by Maus Contemporary That Shouldn't Be Missed" Widewalls Accessed September, 2019.
- "FOCUS III: I'll see it when I believe it," Exhibition Catalog, Abroms-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts Museum, June 2018. pp. 70-72
- "Echo Spectrum," Exhibition Catalog, Trestle Contemporary Art Gallery, March 2017. pp. 43 - 47
- Maus Contemporary Gallery: «Leslie Smith III. Left To Think Alone» Artist Monograph June 2017
- Gleeson, Bridget "Talking With American Painter Leslie Smith III About Abstraction, Anguish, and Architecture" Artsy Accessed January, 2017.
- Gonzalez Panizo, Javier "Pintura y Tiempo: Abstracción Post-Pictórica" Zona Crítica Accessed October 2016.
- Butler, Sharron "Interview: Leslie Smith III in Madison, Wisconsin" Two coats of Paint Accessed February, 2016.
- "Living in The Flat Land" Revista de Arte Contemporaneo Madrid Art Process Accessed February 2015.
- Gonzalez Panizo, Javier "Leslie Smith III: Paint on The Surface" Blogearte – Critica De Arte Accessed February 2015.
- "What's in an art Gallery? I dare to ask." INVESTIGART Accessed January, 2015
- Contemporary Arts Museum Houston: Valerie Cassel Oliver, «Reverb» Out Side The Lines exhibition catalogue December 2014 pp. 143-147 Images 172-173
- Callaloo Art & Culture in The African Diaspora. October 2014. Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press. Issue 4 Vol. 37, pp. 867-869
- Caroline Taylor "Monochromatic" Made, Issue 12, (April 2014): 8
- Walter Lewellyn «Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood» Weld For Birmingham, Accessed March 13, 2014.
- Steinhoff, Jessica "Leslie Smith III's Paintings Explore Trauma Through Abstraction at MMoCA" Isthmus The Daily Page, Accessed June, 2013.
- Leah Kolb « Paintings in Conflict Leslie Smith's Contemporary Abstractions» I Dream Too Much exhibition catalogue, Madison Museum of Contemporary Art June 7, 2013
- Katherine Murrell «Representation, Abstraction, Oscillation» Exhibition catalogue
- Dean Jensen Gallery July 27, 2012
- Erica Agyeman «The Medium of The Message» International Review of African American Art, Issue 23.4, (December 2011): 35-38
- Glen McNatt «Saying Their Piece About Fighters, War" Baltimore Sun, Accessed July, 2007.

LESLIE SMITH III EST REPRÉSENTÉ :

Galerie Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, Alabama, US depuis 2013
Galerie Ponce + Ribles, Madrid, Espagne entre 2014 et 2016
Galerie Heike Strelow, Frankfurt, Allemagne depuis 2016
Galerie Patrick Mikhail, Montreal, Canada depuis 2018
Galerie Isabelle Gounod depuis 2019

NOMINATIONS

- University Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI | 2017 - Present
Professor Drawing and Painting
- University Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI | 2011 - 2017
Assistant Professor Drawing and Painting
- University Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI | 2010 - 2011
Senior Lecture,
- University of Hartford, Hartford, CT | 2009 - 2010
Adjunct Professor,

CONFÉRENCES

- Massachusetts College of Art and Design | Boston, MA | 2019
Visiting Artist: Lecture and Studio Visits
- Peninsula School of Art | Fish Creek, WI | 2019
Contemporary Themes in Abstraction Presentation and Workshop
- Peninsula School of Art | Fish Creek, WI | 2018
Contemporary Themes in Abstraction Presentation and Workshop
- The Look of THINGS, Curators Office, Washington, DC | 2017
Panelist
- American University Department of Art | Washington DC | 2016
Kinetic: Conversations in Contemporary Arts
Featuring Leslie Smith III and Rushern Baker IV
- Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville, MO | 2014
Visiting Artist: Lecture and Studio Visits
- UW Milwaukee Peck School of Art, Milwaukee, WI | 2014
Visiting Artist: Lecture and Studio Visits
- University of Iowa School of Art & Art History, Iowa City, IA | 2014
Visiting Artist: Lecture
- "I Dream Too Much" Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, WI | 2013
Gallery talk and Docent talk
- Marie Walsh Sharp Art Foundation Summer Session III, Colorado Spring, CO | 2013
Lecture & Painting Seminar instructor
- Voices of Home Panel Discussion, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, New York, NY | 2012
Panel Discussion moderated by former MoCODA curator Kalia Brooks
- Strivers Gardens Gallery, New York, NY | 2011
Gallery Talk & Panel Discussion "Contemporary African American Art"
- Dreyfoos School of the Arts, West Palm Beach, FL | 2011
Visiting Artist: Lecture and painting, printmaking workshop
- Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD | 2010
Visiting Artist: Lecture and Undergraduate Thesis Studio Visits
- Yale University School of Art, New Haven, CT | 2010
Visiting Critic: Painting Studio II, seniors and juniors undergraduate majors
- University Wisconsin Madison, Madison, WI | 2010
Visiting Artist: Lecture and Graduate Studio

2016 - 2020 Vice President, Board of Trustee Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, Wisconsin, US

2014 - 2016 Trustee Board Member, Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, Wisconsin, US



Leslie SMITH III, 2022, Atelier, Madison, Wisconsin, US

ACTUALITÉS HORS LES MURS

- *Anyone Can Move a Mountain*, Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, Alabama. (19.08. - 24.09.2022)
- *OFFSIGHT*, James Fuentes Gallery, cur. Didier William, New York, NY. (29.07. - 12.09.2022)

PROGRAMMATION À VENIR

AUDREY MATT AUBERT 20/10 - 26/11/2022

LES ARTISTES REPRÉSENTÉS PAR LA GALERIE

Pierre AGHAIKIAN (FR), Glen BAXTER (UK), Dan BRAULT (CA), Martin BRUNEAU (FR)
Carolyn CARLSON (US/FR), Jacqueline DAURIAC (FR), Luke HENG (SG), Sophie KITCHING
(UK/FR), Florent LAMOUREUX (FR), Jérémy LIRON (FR), Audrey MATT AUBERT (FR)
Mikaël MONCHICOURT (FR), Axel PAHLAVI (FR), Lenny RÉBÉRÉ (FR), Moussa SARR (FR),
Michaële-Andréa SCHATT (FR), Leslie SMITH III (USA), Katharina ZIEMKE (DE)
