

NICODIM

Hugo Wilson

Opening Saturday November 3, 6–8pm

November 3 – December 22, 2018
Los Angeles



Hugo Wilson, *Septagon*, 2018
oil on aluminum with etched zinc on reverse
92.5 x 92.5 x 2.5 in.

To Hugo Wilson, animals are mirrors of human consciousness. We project our desires, hopes, and impulses onto the animal, and the animal reflects, refracts, and hurls them back to us. Unlike the Old Masters he references in his paintings and bronzes, however—George Stubbs, Peter Paul Rubens, Nicolas Poussin—Wilson's menagerie is not beneath the human on the food chain or emblematic of the love of Christ. These creatures are Gods themselves, emerging from turbulent clouds of divine ether, meme warfare, and YouTube clips with agendas all their own, radiating their sentience in neon geometric yantras.

The work is a rorschach of origin legends. His stampeding *Bulls*, 2018, pull their muscular forms from the cosmic aspic that encases them, leaping from their pedestal into tangible reality. *Septagon*, 2018, is a seven-walled gehenna for an impossible avian community that explodes out of its confinement, expanding the canvas to the Great Beyond. In our eagerness to apply our own personal narratives to Wilson's beasts and the baroque noise from which they emerge, one begins to question herself, her own genesis and binary belief systems: *Is this the birth or demise of the universe? Why can't Jesus be an ostrich? Is that really what a zebra's teeth look like?* Wilson's work doesn't answer. Wilson's work is.

Hugo Wilson (b. 1982) lives and works in London. His artworks have been exhibited in group shows at the MODEM Centre for Modern and Contemporary Arts in Debrecen, Busan Metropolitan Art Museum, the National Portrait Gallery, and the Courtauld Institute of Art in London, and are also included in key international collections, such as that of the New York Public Library, the Deutsche Bank Collection in the United Kingdom, and the Janet de Botton Collection in London.

571 south anderson street, suite 2
los angeles, california 90033

info@nicodimgallery.com
www.nicodimgallery.com
t 323.262.0260

NICODIM

Hugo Wilson

° Born 1982, London, United Kingdom
Lives and works in London, United Kingdom

Education

2008 MA Degree City & Guilds, London
2004 Apprenticeship to Charles Cecil: Classical training in fine arts, Florence, Italy

Solo Exhibitions

2018 *Hugo Wilson*, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Panacea, Project B, Milan, Italy
2017 *Rape of Europa*, Parafin, London, United Kingdom
Thierleben, Galerie Judin, Berlin, Germany
2016 *Chroma Hunt*, Shapero Modern, London, United Kingdom
2015 *Hugo Wilson*, Parafin, London, United Kingdom
2014 *Principia Discordia*, Project B, Milan, Italy
2012 *Ideal Hauntology*, Mihai Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2010 *Ad Pondus Omnium*, Project B, Milan, Italy

Selected Group Exhibitions

2018 *BioPerversity*, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Dialogues / New Paintings from London, GASK, Kutná Hora Museum, Czech Republic
Frieze Sculpture Park, Regent's Park, London, United Kingdom
2017 *The Hierophant*, Galeria Nicodim, Bucharest, Romania
2016 *The Nude in the XX and XXI Century* (curated by Jane Neal), Sothebys s2, London, United Kingdom
2015 *De Pictura*, Project B, Milan, Italy
Alles Was ich mag, fast, Schau Fenster, Berlin
2014 *Play Things*, New York Public Library, Print Gallery, Stokes Gallery, New York, NY
Out of Our Heads, Shoreditch Town Hall, London, United Kingdom
Here Today, The Old Sorting Office, London, United Kingdom
Between the Lines, All Visual Arts, London, United Kingdom
Ebensperger, Vienna, Austria

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- Project Honoré*, a project by Laure Flammarion and Pauline Lèveque, Paris, France
- 2013 *Near Narrative* (curated by Jean Phillip Verne), Eric van Hove and Hugo Wilson, Bjorn Stern Gallery, London, United Kingdom
Beastly Hall, Hall Place & Gardens, Kent, United Kingdom
Artists Beasts, Bexly House, London, United Kingdom
Pertaining to Things Natural, Chelsea Physic Garden, London, United Kingdom
- 2012 *A Century of Art: Works from the Collection*, New York Public Library, New York, NY
Nightfall (curated by Jane Neal), MODEM Centre for Modern and Contemporary Art, Debrecen, Hungary
Multipied, Christie's, London, United Kingdom
The Bones of My Hand, Viktor Wynd Fine Art, London
- 2011 *Through A Glass Darkly*, Mihai Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
HOUSE OF BEASTS, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury, United Kingdom
(IN)VISIBLE, EDEL ASSANTI, London, United Kingdom
- 2010 *Anticipation* (curated by Catriona Warren and Kay Saatchi), Selfridges, London, United Kingdom
Wonderland (curated by James Putnam), Assab One, Milan, Italy
East Wing Nine Collection, Courtauld Institute of Art, London, United Kingdom
Busan Biennale, Busan Metropolitan Art Museum, South Korea
Vanitas, All Visual Arts, London, United Kingdom
Cabinet Group Exhibition, John Martin Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2009 *The Embassy*, 20 Hoxton Square Projects, London, United Kingdom
Small is beautiful, Flowers Gallery, London, United Kingdom
Age of the Marvellous (curated by Joe la Placa), AVA, London, United Kingdom
Terra Nihilus, Maddox Gallery, London, United Kingdom
Tunnel 228, The Old Vic in collaboration with Punchdrunk, London, United Kingdom
Top Emerging Artists, Flora Fairburn Project, Selfridges, London, United Kingdom
Up and Coming Print Makers, Curwen and New Academy, London, United Kingdom
- 2008 *MA Degree Show*, City and Guilds, London, United Kingdom
- 2005 *BP Portrait Prize*, National Portrait Gallery, London, United Kingdom

Selected Public and Private Collections

Deutsche Bank Collection, London, United Kingdom
New York Public Library, New York, NY
The Library of Congress Collection, Washington DC
Olbricht Collection, Berlin, Germany
Sammlung Scharff, Frankfurt, Germany
Collection Janet de Botton, London, United Kingdom
Collection Robert Devereux, United Kingdom