

# Brett Charles Seiler

## *Riding In Cars With Boys*

Galerie EIGEN + ART Berlin

January 12 – February 25, 2023



*Riding In Cars With Boys*, 2022, Bitumen and wall paint on canvas, 172 x 160,5 cm and 202 x 152 cm, Diptych

*Riding In Cars With Boys* is South African artist Brett Charles Seiler's first exhibition in Europe. Seiler, who lives and works in Cape Town, where he graduated from the Ruth Prowse School of Art in 2015, has been part of Galerie EIGEN + ART's program since 2021.

Brett Charles Seiler's work includes elements of painting, drawing, installation and object art. Moreover, text and language, whether poetic, nostalgic or romantic, play an integral part in Seiler's artistic approach, and at times are even the central element of his works.

[...] In his paintings intimate moments takes place for Brett Charles Seiler not in a foreign place, but in his own apartment. The private space still conveys the preferred and safe retreat in which the protagonists interact with each other.

A particular feature is the parquet floor, which, with the plants and few pieces of wood furniture, is a recurring element in the spaces of his paintings. The colour palette is reduced to a few colours, black and white dominate the canvas. Now and then there is a dull blue, which is often used to represent water, green for the plants and brown for wood. These are not expensive oil paints, but commercial wall paint. For the black he uses bitumen, which is a mineral oil based product and is used mainly as a binder in asphalt or waterproofing roofs. This is a true deep black with extremely high opacity and shimmers in certain lighting conditions, so that even larger areas of this material reveal the flow of the brushstrokes.

Through titles like *Riding In Cars With Boys* or provocative texts in the works, Brett Charles Seiler bluntly describes directly his everyday life and the confrontation of an ever-repeated outing in society. Queer life forms a central theme in his works. Naked male bodies and intimate scenes convey feelings of passion and security. To understand, it is important to know background of the artist. Brett Charles Seiler was born in 1994 in Zimbabwe, a country that classifies homosexuality as illegal. To escape the danger of persecution Seiler moved to Cape Town in South Africa - the first country in South Africa to allow homophile marriage. [...]

Excerpt from Federico Brauer

Galerie EIGEN + ART  
Gerd Harry Lybke

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## Brett Charles Seiler

born 1994 in Zimbabwe  
lives and works in Cape Town, South Africa

2015 graduate at The Ruth Prowse School of Art,  
Cape Town, South Africa

### Solo exhibitions

2022 Oh, Christopher, M+B, Los Angeles, USA  
2019 How I forgot the colours of the rainbow,  
SMITH, Cape Town, South Africa  
2018 More Scared Of What Was In The Closet Than  
What Was Underneath My Bed, CIRCA  
Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
2016 Macho Man, Tell It To My Heart, AVA Gallery,  
Cape Town, South Africa

### Group exhibitions

2022 Rohkunstbau 27 – Zukunft. Ins Offene,  
Schloss Altdöbern, Germany  
In Between Dreams, Galerie EIGEN + ART  
Berlin, Germany  
Das Eigene im Fremden, Museum Bensheim,  
Germany  
2021 We Who Draw, OPEN 24 HRS, Cape Town,  
South Africa  
Space and Place, Galerie EIGEN + ART  
Leipzig, Germany  
In Your Shadow - Masking Realities, SMAC,  
Cape Town, South Africa  
2020 The Spectacle, THEFOURTH, Cape Town,  
South Africa  
2019 Emphatic Whispers, SMITH, Cape Town,  
South Africa  
Winter 2019, Everard Read, Cape Town,  
South Africa  
The Female Line, SMAC, Cape Town, South  
Africa  
Home Affairs, Waterfront Docks, Cape Town,  
South Africa  
UTSIDE, Riebeek Kastel Gallery, Cape Town,  
South Africa  
2018 One Straight Hour performed for The Main  
Complaint, Zeitz MOCCA, Cape Town, South  
Africa  
Sunday Service, GUS, Stellenbosch,  
South Africa  
Unfair, The Ruth Prowse School of Art,  
Cape Town, South Africa  
The Edge of a Thread, Eclectica  
Contemporary, Cape Town, South Africa

2017

Close Encounters, SMITH, Cape Town,  
South Africa  
Not Really, Previously Known As, Cape  
Town, South Africa  
Multiplicities Vol1: Continuous Unknowing,  
Assembly Room, New York City, USA  
Closer than Ever, Gallery MOMO, Cape  
Town, South Africa  
Performance Night, Gallery MOMO, Cape  
Town, South Africa  
One Week, AVA Gallery, Cape Town, South  
Africa  
Young Now, Hazard Gallery, Johannesburg,  
South Africa  
Hold, The Ruth Prowse School of Art,  
Cape Town, South Africa  
You and I, A4 Foundation, Cape Town,  
South Africa  
Dislocation, Everard Read, Cape Town,  
South Africa  
Salon Show, AVA Gallery, Cape Town,  
South Africa  
ABSA Atelier Top 100 finalists, ABSA  
Gallery, Pretoria, South Africa  
2016 Falling Into One Another, Ruth Prowse  
School of Art, Cape Town, South Africa  
New Monuments, Commune.1, Cape Town,  
South Africa  
Winter Collection, Everard Read, Cape  
Town, Lip Service with Khanya Mashabela,  
Open Dialogue Box, Cape Town, South  
Africa  
Sorry! Please Try Again, The Palms Center,  
Cape Town, South Africa  
Reading Homophobia with Luvuyo  
Nyawose, performance, Gallery MOMO,  
Cape Town, South Africa  
One Zero Seven, 107 Long market Street,