

# LUHRING AUGUSTINE

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## **Josh Smith**

September 12 – October 26, 2013

Opening Reception: Wednesday, September 11, 6-9pm

Luhring Augustine Bushwick, 25 Knickerbocker Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11237

## **Josh Smith**

September 13 – October 19, 2013

Opening Reception: Thursday, September 12, 6-8pm

Luhring Augustine, 531 West 24<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10011

Luhring Augustine is pleased to announce an exhibition of new paintings and ceramics by Josh Smith. This will mark his fourth exhibition with the gallery and will consist of two presentations, one on view at its Chelsea location and the other on view at its Bushwick location.

The work of Josh Smith is distinguished by his mastery of multiple mediums (including painting, collage, sculpture, book and printmaking, and ceramics), his tireless production, and his tendency to acknowledge trends in painting and sculpture by expressly upending them. His most iconic works are paintings that boldly feature his name as their subject; in recent years, the name has given way to motifs such as leaves, fish, skeletons, insects, ghosts, and sunsets. In selecting these rather arbitrary subjects and rendering them in a manner that is by turns aggressive, playful, repetitive, and oblique, Smith compels us to move beyond aesthetics towards a focus on process and looking.

The artist's practice is guided by certain parameters: the persistent evidence of his hand, the regular sizing and serial nature of his work, and the use of diverse techniques, many of which are borne out of his training in printmaking. The element of chance is also important, and Smith welcomes mistakes in his art of both the digital and analog variety. He strives to experiment constantly, but also to refine existing ideas, hence his prolific output is fundamental to his process. It not only reflects his inclination to think through his art, but also to challenge traditional notions of originality and authenticity. One of the most groundbreaking artists working today, Smith continues to test the rules of artistic convention and expand the language of contemporary art.

Josh Smith (b. 1976) is from Knoxville, Tennessee and lives and works between Pennsylvania and New York. He has had several solo exhibitions in the United States and abroad, most notably *The American Dream* at The Brant Foundation in Greenwich, CT in 2011, *Josh Smith* at the Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève in 2009, *Who Am I* at De Hallen Haarlem in 2009, and *Hidden Darts* at MUMOK in Vienna in 2008. He has also participated in important group exhibitions such as *The Painting Factory: Abstraction after Warhol* at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, *Le Printemps de Septembre* in Toulouse, *ILLUMInations* in the 2011 Venice Biennale, and *The Generational: Younger Than Jesus* at the New Museum in New York. His works are in numerous public collections including the Centre Pompidou, Paris, MUMOK, Vienna, the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York and the Museum of Modern Art, New York.

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