

For the 2026 edition of The Campus exhibition, Anton Kern Gallery has invited Tom Eccles, Executive Director of the Center for Curatorial Studies and the Hessel Museum of Art at Bard College, to curate a presentation of works by Los Angeles based artist Matthew Monahan.

“*Matthew Monahan: The Lesson*” is a small show with big ambitions; a conversation around form, content and origins. A bit like a lesson set in the original art classroom of the Campus.” - Tom Eccles

Matthew Monahan’s work focuses on manipulating the figure to challenge what we associate with a traditional representation of the human body. His figures, drawn or sculpted, are made up of fragmented limbs, heads and other body parts. A sense of disintegration, collapse, or breakdown prevails, only gently allowing in a sense of re-assembled beauty. Despite their recognizable classical forms, Monahan’s work feels dramatically new due to their seemingly contradictory nature. It possesses poetic qualities that are both tragic and joyful, slapstick yet erudite, crude and intricate. These dualities bridge the grandeur of history with the inevitability of decay.

This fall, Monahan’s sculptures, reliefs, and works on paper will be the subject of a solo exhibition entitled *The Left Hand Path* at the De Pont Museum in Tilburg, The Netherlands.