

Anton Kern Gallery

Art Basel 2023

Messe Basel | Booth K10

June 13—18, 2023



The gallery is excited to return to Switzerland with new works representing our international and multigenerational roster of artists. At booth K10, you will find works by: Paweł Althamer, Alvaro Barrington, Ellen Berkenblit, John Bock, Brian Calvin, Anne Collier, Julie Curtiss, Nicole Eisenman, Lloyd Foster, Martino Gamper, Ellen Gronemeyer, Bendix Harms, Lothar Hempel, Marcus Jahmal, Hein Koh, Jim Lambie, Chris Martin, Matthew Monahan, Aliza Nisenbaum, Marcel Odenbach, Nathalie Du Pasquier, Alessandro Pessoli, Tal R, Wilhelm Sasnal, Lara Schnitger, David Shrigley, Mike Silva, and Francis Upritchard. In addition, we will highlight drawings

and paintings by David Byrd as part of the fair's curated Kabinett Sector.

Beyond the booth, we are thrilled to present two special projects: Francis Upritchard's *Swamp Creature* for Unlimited, co-presented with Kate MacGarry; and Paweł Althamer's *Astronauts*, a site-specific sculpture made on the occasion of Parours, which will be on view at the Christoph Merian Stiftung Garden for the duration of the fair. *Astronauts* is a joint project with Foksal Gallery Foundation and neugerriemschneider.

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Francis Upritchard

Unlimited

June 12—18, 2023



Francis Upritchard, *Swamp Creature*, 2022, Balata Rubber, 137 3/4 x 68 1/2 x 90 1/2 inches (350 x 174 x 230 cm)

Francis Upritchard's sculpture *Swamp Creature* is a hybrid, amorphous creature standing four meters high. Drawing on dinosaurs, mythic beings, and sea and land creatures, there is a sense of the uncanny, of folkloric creatures and unknown forms lurking beneath the surface. Upritchard has recently begun making sculptures at a larger scale, making the viewer diminutive in contrast. Sculpted out of natural rubber, she manipulates the material underwater and has to work at speed to create the forms.

Swamp Creature was first exhibited in the Salle Poma during Upritchard's solo exhibition, *A Loose Hold*, in Switzerland at Kunsthau Pasquart, Biel, 2022.

Paweł Althamer

Parcours | [Christoph Merian Stiftung Garden](#)

June 12—18, 2023



Paweł Althamer, *Astronauts*, 2023, Cast aluminum, white patina, 3 parts: 19 3/4 x 78 3/4 x 39 3/8 inches (50 x 200 x 100 cm), 17 3/4 x 85 x 39 3/8 inches (45 x 216 x 100 cm), 31 7/8 x 63 x 33 1/2 inches (81 x 160 x 85 cm), Edition 1 of 3

Three reclining, full-scale figures cast in aluminum comprise Paweł Althamer's work *Astronauts* (2023). Clad in the garb of astronauts - helmets, goggles, padded suits and boots - the sculpture's protagonists continue the artist's frequent engagement with the concept of outer space as a venue for alternate histories and ever-expanding narratives that stretch beyond those bound by established terrestrial or societal frameworks. This

point of reference is made literal here: The castings' texture resembles the Moon's surface, its rough undulations revealing embedded sculptural maquettes upon closer inspection. These trappings are in fact makeshift, fashioned from items collected at a flea market in Althamer's native Warsaw frequented by the city's inhabitants seeking refuge from Ukraine. Viewed through this lens, the artist's sculpted forms take on the appearance of soldiers, alluding to now-omnipresent military imagery. Counterbalancing this contemporary parallel, the trio's poses find a centuries-old source: Pieter Bruegel the Elder's 1567 *The Land of Cockaigne*. In this oil-on-panel composition, a clerk, a peasant and a soldier are pictured in various states of satiation, splayed out in rest at a tree's base. Althamer adapts Bruegel's scene here, extracting its unique, social stratification-bridging depiction, spanning walks of life by way of shared pleasures and vices.

David Byrd

Kabinett Sector | Booth K10

June 13—18, 2023



David Byrd, *Butcher Shop*, 2009, Oil on canvas, 40 x 50 inches (101.6 x 127 cm)

David Byrd (1926 – 2013) was an American painter who lived and worked in isolation. He used the GI Bill to enroll at the Ozenfant School of Fine Arts in New York City, where he studied under the French painter Amédée

Ozenfant. He worked for 30 years as an orderly in the psychiatric ward at a VA Hospital to cover his bills and (more importantly) allow him time to paint. His experiences there inspired a 200-page manuscript which he considers his magnum opus. This poignant compilation expresses the artist's perspective as a veteran himself, and his sensitivity toward those living with trauma.

Byrd's style bears influence from different art historical periods: from European Post-Impressionism to Modernism and Cubism, to American Realism and Regionalism. He injects realistic portrayal with fantasy, creating an unsettling psychology to the otherwise tranquil compositions. His work was not publicly exhibited until months before his death at age 87.

Opening Hours:

Unlimited Opening (by invitation only):

Monday, June 12: 4pm to 8pm, First Choice VIP cardholders

Monday, June 12: 6pm to 8pm, Preview VIP cardholders

Parcours Opening:

Monday, June 12: 1pm to 8pm

Tuesday, June 13 – Friday, June 16: 10am to 8pm

Saturday, June 17: 10am to 11pm (Parcours Night 6pm to 11pm)

Sunday, June 18: 10am to 7pm

VIP Days (by invitation only):

Tuesday, June 13: 11am to 8pm, First Choice VIP cardholders

Tuesday, June 13: 4pm to 8pm, Preview VIP cardholders

Wednesday, June 14: 11am to 8pm

Vernissage (by invitation only):

Wednesday, June 14: 5pm to 8pm

Public Days:

Thursday, June 15: 11am to 7pm

Friday, June 16: 11am to 7pm

Saturday, June 17: 11am to 7pm

Sunday, June 18: 11am to 7pm

Special Nights:

Unlimited Night: Thursday, June 15: 7pm to 10pm

Parcours Night: Saturday, June 17: 6pm to 11pm

For additional images and inquiries, contact info@antonkerngallery.com.

For more information about the fair, click [here](#) to visit the official fair site.

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