

BEN BROWN FINE ARTS



Vik Muniz, *Summer (Album)*, 2014, Digital C-print, 101.6 x 101.6 cm; (40 x 40 in.), Edition of 6 + 4 AP

Summer Album

27 July – 17 September 2024

Ben Brown Fine Arts is pleased to present an extraordinary group exhibition celebrating the sights and spirit of summer. *Summer Album* brings together notable works by the artists who have been exhibited at the gallery, including Miquel Barceló, Yoan Capote, Awol Erizku, Damien Hirst, Vik Muniz, Nabil Nahas, José Parlá, Enoc Perez, Ena Swansea and Gert & Uwe Tobias.

Miquel Barceló (b. 1957)

Miquel Barceló studied at the School of Arts and Crafts in Palma de Mallorca and the Fine Arts Academy in Barcelona, Spain. Barceló achieved international acclaim in 1982 for his participation in Documenta VII in Kassel, Germany. In 2014, Barceló's watercolours illustrating Dante's *Divine Comedy* were shown at the Musée du Louvre in Paris, making him the youngest artist ever exhibited at the museum. Barceló represented Spain at the Venice Biennale in 2009. He has exhibited at prestigious institutions including the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid; Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao; and the Museo Rufino Tamayo, Mexico City.

Yoan Capote (b. 1977)

Yoan Capote graduated from the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA) in Havana, Cuba in 2001. His work has been exhibited in the United States, Europe and Cuba, at institutions including Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; Pérez Art Museum, Miami; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; and Hirshhorn Museum, Washington, D.C.; and he was one of four artists representing Cuba at the 54th Venice Biennale in 2011. Capote is celebrated for his provocative, humorous, surrealistic sculpture as well as depictions of seascapes fabricated with fishhooks. His work is included in notable public collections such as Museum Beelden aan Zee, The Hague; Museum of Fine Arts of Boston; Daros Latinamerica AG, Zurich; Kadist Art Foundation, Paris and San Francisco; Pérez Art Museum, Miami; Pizzuti Collection of the Columbus Museum of Art, Ohio; and National Council of Visual Arts, Havana, Cuba.

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Awol Erizku (b. 1988)

Awol Erizku was born in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, grew up in the Bronx, New York, and currently lives and works in Los Angeles. He is a multidisciplinary artist working in photography, film, sculpture and installation, creating a new vernacular that bridges the gap between African and African American visual culture. Erizku received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from The Cooper Union, New York, and a Master of Fine Arts from the Yale School of Art, New Haven, Connecticut. Erizku's work has been exhibited at prominent institutions including Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Arkansas; Museum of Modern Art, New York; The Studio Museum in Harlem; Museum of Contemporary Art, Toronto; and FLAG Art Foundation, New York.

Damien Hirst (b.1965)

Damien Hirst, born in Bristol, England, in 1965, is acclaimed for his incisive interrogation of the existential dichotomies at the core of human experience. Hirst's oeuvre, marked by a synthesis of conceptual rigor, visceral impact and audacious creativity, examines the tensions between beauty and decay, art and religion, faith and doubt, and life and death. His expansive practice encompasses sculpture, painting, and installation, and serves as a vehicle for his relentless exploration of the profound and often unsettling questions at the heart of human existence. Hirst's Freeze exhibition in 1988 marked a seminal moment in contemporary art, propelling him to the forefront of the 'Young British Artists' (YBA) movement, where his provocative installations and bold conceptual approach redefined the boundaries of art in the late 20th century.

Since 1987, Hirst has been the subject of over 90 solo exhibitions that have taken place worldwide, including at the Tate Modern, London; Palazzo Vecchio, Florence; Oceanographic Museum, Monaco; Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam; Astrup Fearnley Museet für Moderne Kunst, Oslo; Museo Archeologico Nazionale, Naples; Palazzo Grassi and Punta della Dogana, Pinault Collection, Venice; Villa Borghese, Rome; and Fondation Cartier, Paris. Hirst's work features in major collections including the British Museum, London; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C.; the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York; Tate, London; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; Yale Center for British Art, New Haven, The Broad Collection, Los Angeles; Victoria and Albert Museum, London; and Fondazione Prada, Milan. In 2015, Hirst opened his own space, the Newport Street Gallery, London, showcasing not only his own artworks but also his extensive personal collection.

Vik Muniz (b. 1961)

Vik Muniz was born in São Paulo, Brazil, in 1961 and currently lives and works in both New York and Rio de Janeiro. His work has been exhibited in prestigious institutions worldwide, including the International Center of Photography, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Menil Collection, Houston; Museu de Arte Moderna São Paulo; Museu de Arte Moderna, Rio de Janeiro; Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona; Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Rome; Irish Museum of Contemporary Art, Dublin; Tel Aviv Museum, Israel and Long Museum, Shanghai. His work features in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Art Institute of Chicago; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo; Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo; Victoria and Albert Museum, London; and Tate, London. In 2001, Muniz represented the Brazilian Pavilion at the 49th Venice Biennale. Vik Muniz is the subject of an Academy Award-nominated documentary film entitled *Waste Land* (2010) and serves as a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador.

Nabil Nahas (b. 1949)

Born in Lebanon in 1949, Nahas grew up in Beirut and Cairo and earned a Master of Fine Arts from Yale University in 1973. He lives and works between New York and Beirut. His work is included in such prominent collections as Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, Doha, Qatar; Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Flint Institute of Arts, Flint, Michigan; Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia; and Tate Modern, London. In 2013 Nahas was awarded the National Order of the Cedar, for services to Lebanese culture, an honour rarely bestowed to visual artists.

José Parlá (b. 1973)

José Parlá is a multidisciplinary artist working in painting, large-scale murals, photography, video, and sculpture. Parlá studied at Miami Dade Community College and New World School of the Arts, both in Miami, and Savannah College of Art & Design (SCAD),

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Savannah, GA. Beginning his career as a street artist in the 1980s, Parlá takes inspiration from the cities he visits around the world, creating tactile, organic, layered artworks that provide an urban history. Parlá's work has been exhibited at the High Museum of Art, Atlanta; SCAD Museum of Art, Savannah College of Art & Design, Savannah; Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase, NY; National YoungArts Foundation, Miami; and the Havana Biennial, Havana, Cuba. Parlá's work is in several public collections including the British Museum, London; Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY; POLA Museum of Art, Hakone, Japan; and the National Museum of Fine Arts, Havana.

Enoc Perez (b. 1967)

Enoc Perez is a critically acclaimed multidisciplinary artist living and working in Brooklyn, New York. The artist earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Pratt Institute and a Master of Fine Arts from Hunter College, both in New York. His works are included in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; The British Museum, London; Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven; New York Public Library; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington DC; and Museum of Contemporary Art, San Juan, Puerto Rico. He has an upcoming retrospective at Museo de Arte de Ponce, Puerto Rico.

Ena Swansea (b. 1966)

Ena Swansea was born in Charlotte, North Carolina, and studied film and painting at the University of South Florida. Swansea's work has been exhibited internationally at prominent institutions including MoMA PS1, New York; Saatchi Gallery, London; Deichtorhallen, Sammlung Falckenberg, Hamburg; and Musée d'Art Moderne (MUDAM), Luxembourg. Swansea's work is included in numerous public and private collections such as Museum of Modern Art, New York; Collezione Maramotti, Reggio Emilia, Italy; Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, New York; Colby College Museum, Maine; Boca Raton Museum of Art, Florida; Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden; Sammlung Falckenberg, Hamburg; and Olbricht Collection, Berlin. Swansea lives and works in New York City.

Gert & Uwe Tobias (b.1931)

Born in Braşov, Romania, in 1973, Gert and Uwe Tobias are twin brothers celebrated for their vibrant, intricately detailed large-scale woodcut prints, relief sculptures, paintings, and drawings. Their art captivates with its whimsical yet haunting exploration of cultural identity, depicting mysterious, ethereal imagery marrying figurative narratives with geometric abstraction. Drawing from macabre folk-surrealist themes and Transylvanian mythology, their work incorporates elements of popular culture, contemporary graphic design, and nods to art history, exploring how myths evolve and how objects tap into a collective cultural heritage.

The Tobias brothers moved to Germany in 1985 and graduated from the University of Fine Arts, Braunschweig, in 2002. In 2004, they were awarded the Peter Mertes Scholarship from the Art Association, Bonn. Since their emergence on the international art scene, the Tobias brothers have exhibited widely, with solo shows at prestigious institutions such as the Whitechapel Gallery, London; the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; and the Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn. Their work is held in numerous prominent collections, including the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York; Sammlung Goetz, Munich; and the Sprengel Museum, Hanover.

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