

PRESS RELEASE
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David Kovats Gallery opens the solo exhibition 'Hybrids' by Hungarian artist Zsolt Bodoni
8 October - 3 November 2021

David Kovats Gallery, 80 Long Acre, Covent Garden, WC2E 9NG
Opening: 7 October 2021, 6-8 pm



Zsolt Bodoni - Timeo Danaos et dona ferentes (2021), led, acrylic on canvas, 200 x 270 cm.
Zsolt Bodoni - 2nd Mary (2021), led, acrylic on canvas, 136 x 170 cm.

David Kovats Gallery is delighted to announce the opening of its upcoming solo exhibition dedicated to Hungarian artist Zsolt Bodoni, in collaboration with Einspach Fine Art & Photography. The show will open to the public on October 7th, and it will be on view until November 3rd at the gallery's main location, 80 Long Acre in Covent Garden.

Zsolt Bodoni (b. 1975) is a prominent Hungarian visual artist and painter who primarily works with oil and acrylic on canvas. His works usually have emblematic dark colours and a deeper perspective. The artist skillfully presents historical figures and divine beings captured in a unique and imposing way. Like most artists of his generation, he is inspired and influenced by the European arts, including historical paintings and sculptures.

This is the artist's first exhibition in London, where his newest series of paintings, consisting of LED lighting on canvas, are shown. The gallery's space will be filled with brushstrokes of colour and light, and all the windows will be covered to create a dark atmosphere as the only light in the room will be coming from the works. Passerbys will be able to peep in from the street through a line we leave open between the covers.

The exhibition's title is 'Hybrids', referring to the technical side of Zsolt's latest series. Unlike his previous works, these six artworks are not classic oil, acrylic on canvas paintings,

but a developed version of them with a technique that combines canvases with LED lighting. The works on display are an attempt to move away from the dark Eastern European perspective that is so characteristic of Bodoni's generation and has defined his previous work.

The development of this project happened thanks to the cooperation between the Einspach Fine Art & Photography and the David Kovats Gallery. The gallery has organised several exhibitions for Zsolt Bodoni in the past, including solo shows and art fairs participation.

For more information:

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Notes to Editors:

About Zsolt Bodoni:

Zsolt Bodoni's working process is based on an analysis of the past that functions as a kind of archaeology. He sources information from documents, art history and music; his work is both a means of understanding and a process of recreation through forging a new view of the past from the perspective of the present. Bodoni's paintings are more like a performance, much as classical musicians re-visit musical scores. The starting point is the reworking of old masters. First Bodoni attempts to peer beneath the glaze of the "original", searching for the skeleton underneath, then, from his own reproduction he invents new elements or changes the proportions - a process which he describes as similar to the act of "hacking" - his role that of a virus that invades the unique masterpieces, this changing our reading of the past and redefining our understanding of originality.

Born in Élesd, Romania in 1975, Zsolt Bodoni received his MFA from the Hungarian Academy of Fine Arts in Budapest, Hungary. Selected solo shows include: The Shining Path (2015) and King Give Us Soldiers (2013), Green Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE; Remastered, Brand New Gallery, Milan, Italy (2013); Gods and Mortals, Mihai Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles, USA (2011); Foundries of Ideologies, Ana Cristea Gallery, New York, USA (2010); and Monuments at FA Projects, London, UK (2008). He has been shown in several important group shows including THE NUDE in the XX & XXI CENTURY, S|2 Gallery, London (2015); Turning Points, The Twentieth Century Through 1914, 1939, 1989 and 2004, Hungarian National Gallery, Budapest, Hungary (2014); Defaced, Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, Boulder, CO (2014); This Side of Paradise, S|2 Gallery, London, UK (2014); Nightfall, Galerie Rudolfinum, Prague, Czech

Republic (2013), Nightfall, MODEM Centre for Modern and Contemporary Arts, Debrecen, Hungary(2012); Prague Biennale 5, Prague, Czech Republic (2001, 2009); Leipzig Walkabout, Galerie Eigen + Art, Leipzig, Germany (2011); Uncertain Terrain, Knoxville Museum of Art, Knoxville, TN (2010); Show Me a Hero, Calvert 22, London, UK (2009); 15 Hungarian and Romanian Painters, Plan B, Cluj, Romania (2008). His work has been featured and reviewed in Art in America, Flash Art and The New York Times. In 2009 he was selected for the “Top 100 Emerging Artists” by Flash Art International. He lives and works in Budapest, Hungary.

About David Kovats:

David Kovats was born in 1982 in Budapest, Hungary. He has over fifteen years of experience in the art market working as a gallerist, auctioneer, and entrepreneur. From an early age he was surrounded by art, as his father, Lajos Kovats founded one of the first private auction houses in Hungary in 1991. Soon after school graduation, David ran his own gallery in Budapest. He focused on contemporary art and introducing international artists to the Hungarian market.

David's career highlight was the exhibition he organised and planned for Hermann Nitsch. Following that project, in 2009, David moved to London where he joined the Art and Business course at the Sotheby's Institute of Art. After a week in the course, he fell in love with auctions, especially after joining an evening sale of impressionist works. David then built his own network, completed an MA in Art and Business, and became an intern, and later a full-time employee, at Sotheby's.

During his time at Sotheby's he worked at the Valuations Department, managing the valuation of important collections. In 2017, David moved back to Hungary to start his own auction house Dobossy with his sister Nora, which focused on Hungarian contemporary art. Together they brought a fresh approach to the market with great success, including a London sale in 2019. He then decided to move back to London so he can expose his work to a global audience. The first exhibition of David Kovats Gallery opened in December 2020 and was dedicated to artist Pista Horror and has presented more than 7 solo exhibitions to date.

About Einspach Fine Art & Photography:

Following the closure of Art+Text Budapest and a two-year-long resting period, the founder of the gallery, Gábor Einspach launched a new exhibition space in Budapest, Hungary named Einspach Fine Art & Photography in June 2021.

Besides the newly opened physical space, the Einspach Fine Art & Photography is continuing its ambitious program, to bridge the Hungarian art scene with outstanding international contemporary artists, such as Magdalena Abakanowicz, Marina Abramović, Tracey Emin or Grayson Perry, but also representing Hungarian cutting-edge emerging artists and progressive masters from the post-war period on the international art market. The gallery's main aim is to bridge Hungarian contemporary art and the international art world, through publishing international art books - such as Neo-avant-garde trends in Hungarian Art Photography, 1965-1984 by Sándor Szilágyi or by participating at international art fairs, such as Artissima, Photo London, or at the Paris Photo.