

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GARIS & HAHN

EST. NOW

Garis & Hahn presents:



Boisterous Bloom, 2015, Mixed media, 74 x 66 in.

***Intoxicating Pollen Wiggling in a Moist Journey of Constantly
Blooming Tides***

Mike Perry

Curated by Cassandra Johnson

Exhibition Dates: April 22 – May 29, 2016

Opening Reception: Friday, April 22, 2016 | 6-8PM

Garis & Hahn is pleased to announce *Intoxicating Pollen Wiggling in a Moist Journey of Constantly Blooming Tides*, an exhibition of new works on canvas from the New York-based painter and illustrator Mike Perry. Encompassing a series of kaleidoscopic

abstractions and ebullient distillations of the pop and surrealist canon, the show represents a significant evolution in the artist's practice. Garis & Hahn, located at 263 Bowery, will host an opening reception on Friday, April 22, 2016 from 6-8PM.

The large-scale paintings embody all the signature elements of Perry's work—unnaturalistic colors, intricately distorted compositions, and a hand-drawn aesthetic—while also exhibiting many of the preoccupations with form shared by the Fauvists and German Expressionists; visible layers of impasto emphasize the two-dimensionality of the canvas, suggesting Matisse's *Dancers* and *Blue Nude* cut-outs.

Here Perry explores how light becomes liquid, and renders such unseen forces as gravitational waves, blurring boundaries of bodies and creating hypnotic whirlpools in the midst of his portraits. A focus on the nude—a foundational form which allows art students to understand texture, light, shadow, proportion—promotes experimentation in rendering the human body, as Perry says, "to learn how material moves and sits."

The series revels in a vibrant, sanguine figuration, as in a diptych of an orgy represented by bright lines and curves that flow across a blue and black background, suggesting muddled appendages. A still life of a banana attached to a biomorphic form is a dreamlike, ecstatic vision evoking the work of Heinz Edelmann and the advertising vernacular of Milton Glaser.

"Pop derives from energy and icons," Perry observes. "I'm using that to build bizarre landscapes that channel big topics in the universe."

About the Artist: Mike Perry (b. 1981, Kansas City, Mo.) is a painter, illustrator, and designer. He works in a variety of mediums, including paint, drawing, installation, public murals, graphics, and animation. He has designed the opening animation and promos for the popular Comedy Central show *Broad City*, and is currently working on an animated series. Commissioned projects include Herman Miller, Apple, Nike, MTV, MAC Cosmetics, Converse and Rayban and large-scale installations for Facebook and Duvel. His illustrations have appeared in *GQ*, *Harpers*, *Playboy*, *Nylon* and the *New York Times*. He has published six books including *My Mother Caught Me Doodling* (2015) and *Wondering Around Wandering* (2012). He is the Creative Director of Tidal Magazine.

About the Curator: Cassandra Johnson is a curator and co-founder of curatorial firm The Varsity Project, gallery director and an art consultant based in New York City. Cassandra has worked for Creative Time, the Dumbo Arts Center and Gagosian Gallery. Her writing has appeared in *n+1*, *Bomb* and the *Journal of Social Theory in Art Education* and others. She is currently Director of Steven Kasher Gallery, New York.

About Garis & Hahn

Garis & Hahn is a gallery-cum-Kunsthalle that mounts exhibitions focused on conceptual narratives and relevant conversations in contemporary art. By displaying an array of carefully curated artists, the gallery endeavors to provide accessibility, education, awareness, and a market to the art while engaging both the arts community and a broader general audience.

Gallery Hours

Wednesday – Saturday, 11am - 6pm

Sunday, 1 - 6pm

Location

263 Bowery

New York, NY 10002

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