

# LEFEBVRE & FILS

CONTEMPORARY ART CERAMICS

in collaboration with Emma Gray HQ  
present

## ANDREW HOLMQUIST *THE ELYSIAN FIELDS*

October 20 - November 26, 2022



Galerie Lefebvre & Fils  
24, rue du bac - 75007 Paris  
[www.lefebvreelfils.fr](http://www.lefebvreelfils.fr)

*Mt. Washington 8, 2022*, Oil on canvas, 127 x 152.4 cm, 50 x 60 in.

And  
*Untitled, 2022*, Glazed stoneware and porcelain slip, 76,2 x 58,4 x 48,2 cm, 30 x 23 x 19 in.  
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ANDREW HOLMQUIST

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Lefebvre et Fils and Emma Gray HQ are delighted to present “The Elysian Fields” an exhibitions of paintings and ceramic sculptures by LA based artist Andrew Holmquist who is currently at The Residency program in Versailles . The Elysian Fields borrows its title from multiple references but initially from ‘Elysian Park’ in East Los Angeles - a sun drenched vista and parcel of land that Holmquist frequently walks and paints in. It also references the ‘Elysian Fields’ which were according to Homer, located on the western edge of the Earth by the Stream of Okeanos. In Greek mythology ‘Elysium’ is the paradise to which heroes whom the Gods conferred mortality were sent. The fields have also been known as “The fortunate isles” and “The isles of the blessed,” lastly and perhaps appropriately connecting the dots from LA to Ancient Greece and Paris , the famous field of shopping dreams - ‘The Champs Elysees’ share the Elysian Fields translation and can be located just a mile or so away Lefebvre et Fils Gallery.

Andrew Holmquist presents a set of 6 landscape plein-air paintings from Elysian and Mount Washington parks combined with with ceramic sculptures. The works that joyfully play on the traditions of the respective mediums, the blurring between them, and their ability to depict the sweeping grandeur of nature in abstract and artificial ways.

This is the second exhibition this year with Emma Gray HQ. Ecstatic Time which opened on February 2022 received an artforum Must See and a review by Shana Nys Dymbrot. Andrew Holmquist (b. 1985) explores the unsettled nature of contemporary identity as seen through the lens of the free-wheeling present. Drawing on myriad cultural references, from the density and scale found in history painting to the singular and tender moments found in intimate-scale forms such as the miniature, Holmquist's works manifest as realizations of embodied landscapes; hyperreal scenes of imagination, and personal memory. These expressions unfurl in imaginative bursts of color made visible in paintings that span the gamut from the abstract to the figurative; from the innately detailed to the performatively gestural. Born into a creative family, the artist began making art at a young age, producing an extensive body of work from ceramic and sculpture; drawing and printmaking, through to his signature paintings, which vary in material and texture. At the heart of these multitudinous vistas is an exploratory sensibility around the future of queer spaces. In the age of Instagram frames and distributed desire, Holmquist seeks to ask: what do the multiple layered spaces of otherness look like? In Holmquist's multi-dimensional spaces, one is witness to amorphous bodies, deconstructed into cellular forms; contoured limbs that appear and disappear; figures, which at first seem stable become formally unspooled, suggestive of an interiority--a body beyond the realm of the human, a metaphor for a hyperlinked, accelerating, technological age. At times ebullient, while at others, laden with melancholy, Holmquist's adventures in art speak to a wanting, longing, searching sense of a collective self.

# ANDREW HOLMQUIST

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### EDUCATION

#### **2014**

Master of Fine Arts, Painting and Drawing, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

#### **2008**

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Painting and Drawing, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

#### **2006**

Academy of Fine Arts Prague, Painting atelier. Prague, Czech Republic

### SOLO-EXHIBITIONS

#### **2022**

Andrew Holmquist, Ecstatic Time, Emma Gray HQ, Santa Monica, CA

#### **2020**

Online: Andrew Holmquist, HQME, Carrie Secrist Gallery, Chicago, IL

#### **2019**

Andrew Holmquist, New Succulence, Carrie Secrist Gallery, Chicago, IL

Andrew Holmquist, Above Ground Pool, Johannes Vogt Gallery, NYC, NY

#### **2018**

Andrew Holmquist, Alter Ego, Carrie Secrist Gallery, Chicago, IL

#### **2016**

Andrew Holmquist, STAGE LEFT, Carrie Secrist Gallery, Chicago, IL

#### **2014**

Andrew Holmquist, Video & Editioned Artist's Books, Carrie Secrist Gallery, Chicago, IL

#### **2013**

Andrew Holmquist, Marco [Polo], Carrie Secrist Gallery, Chicago, IL

#### **2012**

Temporal Figuration, LVL3, Chicago, IL

#### **2011**

Andrew Holmquist: WORLDS COLLIDE!, Carrie Secrist Gallery, Chicago, IL

3.2..1...GO! New Paintings by Andrew Holmquist, David Brian Dobbs & Ben Moore, Tugboat Gallery, Lincoln, NE

Andrew Holmquist: Recent Work, The Center on Halsted, Chicago, IL

#### **2010**

Daniel Bruttig, Andrew Holmquist, New Paintings, GOLDEN Gallery, Chicago, IL

Andrews, Miller, Holmquist, Jolie Laide Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

Ject [sub, ob, ab, in, inter, pro, re], Slow, Chicago, IL

#### **2009**

Big Mess, GOLDEN Gallery, Chicago, IL

Andrew Holmquist is based in Los Angeles. Raised in Northfield, Minnesota, he moved to Chicago in 2003 to attend The School of the Art Institute of Chicago where he received his BFA (08) and MFA (14) and was awarded the Merit Scholarship, the Carrie Ellen Tuttle Fellowship, and the Luminarts Cultural Foundation Visual Arts Fellowship for young and promising artists in the Chicago region. Following his studies at SAIC, he relocated to Berlin, where he lived until relocating to L.A. in early 2019.

His work was included in the 2015 edition of the biannual juried exhibition "Ground Floor" at the Hyde Park Art Center, which serves as a survey of the best work created by MFA degree recipients in the Chicago area, and in 2016, he was invited to participate in the Vancouver Arts Festival, where his work was featured in the exhibition Drama Queer, examining the queer perspective in contemporary art. 2017 saw his paintings included in the exhibition "Eternal Youth" at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago.

Andrew's work is in the permanent collections of Rachofsky Collection at The Warehouse, Dallas, the Illinois State Museum, the Providence College Collection, the University of Illinois, the University of Chicago, the Joan Flasch Artist Book Collection, as well as the JPMorgan Chase Art Collection, The Progressive Art Collection, the BMO Harris Art Collection, the Fidelity Art Collection, and the First Midwest Bank Collection. He has had solo and group exhibitions in Chicago, Los Angeles, NYC, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Nashville, Williamstown, Vancouver, and Berlin. His work will be featured in the forthcoming book, Internet/Art: The First Thirty Years, written by Omar Kholeif and published by Phaidon.

### PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

The Rachofsky Collection, The Warehouse, Dallas, TX  
University of Illinois-Chicago, Chicago, IL

Illinois State Museum, Chicago, IL

JPMorgan Chase Art Collection, New York City, NY

Fidelity Art Collection, Boston, MA

The Progressive Art Collection, Mayfield Village, Ohio

BMO Harris Art Collection, Chicago, IL

First Midwest Bank Collection, Chicago, IL

Joan Flasch Artist Book Collection, SAIC, Chicago, IL

Special Collections Library, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL



Portrait of Louis Lefebvre  
© Paul Jacob Bashour

#### About Louis Lefebvre

Born in Paris.

Louis Lefebvre left to study in Cambridge, England.

On his return, he began working at Christie's in the European Ceramics department, followed by the Asian Ceramics department.

During the 1980s, Louis Lefebvre started working with his father in his role as a respected expert in Ancient Ceramics. He specialized in historical and large decorative pieces, and later Modern and Contemporary ceramics.

In 2009, Louis Lefebvre chose to re-focus the family gallery, created in 1880. He put in place the gallery's first exhibition of new ceramics. Since, the gallery has explored contemporary ceramics and accompanied artists such as Roger Herman, Eric Croes and Cammie Staros in their interrogation of the medium with a leitmotiv and passion to show the real permanence and renewal of Ceramics as a medium in contemporary art.

## Presentation of the Residency Project Interview with Louis Lefebvre

*“The residency grew from a desire precious to my family; that is to know and promote a know-how passed down many generations, enabling the creation of complex and unique art works.”*

**In 2015, you opened the “The Residency” in Versailles for artists specialized in ceramics. What is involved in this initiative?**

En 2006, I had the chance to acquire a house in Versailles classified for its historical heritage, once the music room of the princess Elisabeth, sister of Louis XVI.

“The Residency” grew from a desire precious to my family; that is to know and promote a know-how passed down many generations, enabling the creation of complex and unique art works.”

The residency is kitted out with two kilns to make production as easy as possible for artists.

**The duration of the residencies vary between 6 weeks and 3 months. Part of the package is that your gallery is the stage for a solo show at the end of the residency. Are all the pieces are exhibited being shown exclusive?**

On average, the residency lasts two months for each invited artist. Each exhibited work is unique and unseen. There are no multiple editions.

Each residency is an opportunity to share, experiment and live a human adventure. The resulting solo show is the fruit of work that comes from a strong link between the artist and the gallery.

**Not all the artists in “The Residency” are artists of the gallery. How do you choose which artists benefit from the residency?**

It would be impossible to establish an admissions process to participate in “The Residency”.

I am particularly susceptible to the production of a number of artists from the West Coast of America. I find their outlook, when it comes to techniques and the work produced, of a very high level. There is a really unique style that comes from Los Angeles.

I trust my eye and my aesthetic sensitivity. I owe many artistic encounters to Roger Herman, a professor friend at UCLA and ceramist artist, and to Danny First, an Israeli philanthropist friend.

**“The Residency” has existed for two years, could you tell us your first impressions of how it’s gone so far, and your goals for the future?**

I had given myself two years to make the project viable. I’ve achieved this, as well as doubling the turnover for the gallery.

The solo shows have been a great success, enabling me to confirm my role as a gallery owner by placing the artists’ pieces. I also advise and accompany them in introductions to great collectors and museums. Such as Anabel Juarez, a Mexican artist, or Eric Croes, a Belgian artist, who have works in the collections of the Museum of Sèvres.

In addition, the gallery offers the residency artists a high quality of visibility through the participation in innovative international fairs, for example in AAAH Paris Internationale.

This project, dedicated to the red arts, which started with the artist Ulrika Strömbäck continues today with many more artists. “The Residency” has a booked-up program until 2023, which demonstrates that the gallery has opened a new chapter and that the story continues.

THE RESIDENCY



## Practical Informations



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Galerie Lefebvre & Fils  
24, rue du Bac  
75007 Paris

From Tuesday to Saturday  
11am - 1pm and 2pm - 7pm  
Monday by appointment

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