

BLOUINARTINFO

Jonathan Trayte's "Fruiting Habits" at Friedman Benda, New York

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"Kandi," 2018 Jonathan Trayte [British, b. 1980] Painted bronze, stainless steel, foam, polymer plaster, pigments, adhesive, nylon flock, neon; 42.5 x 43.25 x 13.75 inches, 108 x 110 x 35 cm
(Courtesy: Artist and Friedman Benda)

Friedman Benda will be hosting Jonathan Trayte's "Fruiting Habits" at its New York venue.

Jonathan Trayte's "Fruiting Habits" assembles a surreal and psychologically provocative landscape, with living, sleeping and eating quarters. This fantasy world is instantly appealing, but also intentionally strange, and laced with mordant wit, the gallery says. Together these pieces form a quirky and characterful family of misfits.

"Jonathan Trayte's "Fruiting Habits" at Friedman Benda, New York," *Blouin Artinfo*, June 13, 2018.

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“The work that I tend to make comes together all at once, like a cast of characters,” says Trayte. “There's always some weird older brother, the ‘black sheep,’ that doesn't quite fit.”

“Trayte comes from a background in fine art sculpture, and also has had broad experience in other fields — including as a chef and foundry metal worker. In this show, he brings his skills and interests to designing functional objects,” the gallery added.

In his works, familiar objects like lamps or a bedroom and dining set morph into strange compositions where natural forms and glossy synthetic skins of paint converge.

The gallery emphasizes that the range of materials that he incorporates into this repertoire is extremely wide — painted bronze, leather, wood, marble and neon — as is the scope of his imagery.

“Most important are consumables like bulbous melons and gourds, confections, and deli meats, all of which he renders with great affection and a tongue-in-cheek sense of humor. The exuberance and sheer sculptural invention of the work amount to a 21st century return of the Baroque,” the gallery says.

Jonathan Trayte (b. 1980 Huddersfield, UK) received a BFA from University of the Creative Arts Canterbury in 2004 and a postgraduate degree in Fine Art from Royal Academy Schools in 2010. Trayte’s work has been included in numerous international exhibitions. Some of his recent exhibitions include “SCHUSSBOOMER,” Castor Projects, London (2017-18); “Polyculture,” The Tetley, Leeds, UK (2016); “Experiments in Consuming,” The Kings School, Canterbury, UK (2016); “Pazar,” Marcelle Joseph Projects and Istanbul Art Project, Istanbul, Turkey (2014). In 2016, he was awarded the Fashion Arts Foundation Award by the British Fashion Council and was the recipient of Time Out Istanbul Residency in Turkey in 2014.

The exhibition will be on view from June 21 through July 27, 2018, at Friedman Benda, 515 W 26th Street New York, NY 10001.

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