







FINDLAY GALLERIES

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SIMONSEN 13



HENRIK SIMONSEN

Danish Contemporary Artist

Matural Elements



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HENRIK SIMONSEN

The works of Henrik Simonsen connect the viewer with the mysterious and almost magical side of nature. His paintings, while exacting in detail and technically virtuous, are truly about the spirit behind that which man did not create. The craggy forms of his trees, the rhythms of the leaves, the detailed petals in his flowers are all a reminder of the natural world's beauty; and yet, they are not realistic or naturalistic works, they are contemporary works that combine the strength and movement of abstract painting with an insight of nature's rhythm and beauty.

Simonsen's deliberate splashes and drippings are calculated to inform the modernism and wit of contemporary environments that surround us. He does it with the cleverness of Calder and the achievement of the "Abstract Expressionists" leading him to be a contemporary "Berliner Abstract Expressionist". Simply meaning, he is a recognized young artist above the wave of artists living and creating in Berlin from the years 2005 onward.





For me personally the draw of the subject matter is its inexhaustible richness and metaphorical ability to speak of human existence.

- HENRIK SIMONSEN





 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Red Tree} \\ \text{Oil and Gold Pigment on Canvas} \\ \text{55 x 47 Inches} \\ \text{FG 136732} \end{array}$

Wind Shaped, 2017 Oil and Graphite on Canvas 59 x 59 Inches FG 138440







rresting and mysterious, Henrik Simonsen's paintings of nature are obsessively accurate in form yet almost abstract in composition and hue. Depicting each fine blade of grass, delicate leaf and spindly twig within their natural habitat, they are a surreal fusion between landscape and Dutch floral still life. The significance of colour in Simonsen's work is undeniable. Often abandoning realism in his pallet, he creates strong contrasts which allow the luminosity of the paint to sing on the canvas, at times giving the feel of a solarised photograph or alien atmosphere.

- ART HISTORIAN KRISTINE FRAHM





Silver Birches, 2017 $\,\mid$ Oil, Graphite, and Gold Pigment on Canvas $\,\mid$ 59 x 59 Inches $\,\mid$ FG 138441

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Blue Pine, 2017} \\ \text{Oil, Graphite, and Silver Pigment on Canvas} \\ \text{59 x 51 Inches} \\ \text{FG 138442} \end{array}$







Verge Gold, 2017 | Oil, Graphite, and Gold Pigment on Canvas | 39 x 39 Inches | FG 138446



Gold Pine, 2017 $\,$ Oil, Graphite, and Gold Pigment on Canvas $\,$ 59 x 51 Inches $\,$ FG 138443



Simonsen's work references Nordic Expressionism, a period in Art History where the elements of nature were not necessarily depicted in their natural colours. The landscapes of Edvard Munch express psychological states of mind, they show nature filtered through the subjectivity of a human mind, and not objective studies of nature. The colour is at the forefront, in the paintings of Munch and Nolde as well as in the work of Simonsen.

- ART HISTORIAN KRISTINE FRAHM

Blue Tree with Orange and Yellow, 2017 Oil, Graphite, and Gold Pigment on Canvas 51 x 51 Inches FG 138444

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Verge Blue, 2017 Oil and Graphite on Canvas 39 x 39 Inches FG 138447



Verge Green, 2017 Oil and Graphite on Canvas 39 x 39 Inches FG 138448



Yellow, 2017 | Oil and Graphite on Canvas | 19 x 19 Inches | FG 138457



Red Blackberry, 2015 | Oil and Graphite on Canvas | 19 x 19 Inches | FG 138455



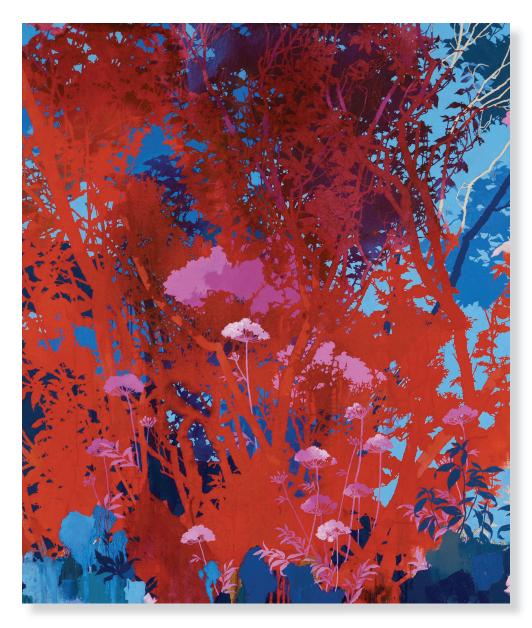
Orange, 2017 | Oil and Graphite on Canvas | 19 x 19 Inches | FG 138453



Orange Hemlock, 2017 | Oil and Graphite on Canvas | 19 x 19 Inches | FG 138458



Plant Battle, 2017 Oil and Graphite on Canvas 31 x 43 Inches FG 138449



Dense | Oil and Gold Pigment on Canvas | 47 x 39 Inches | FG 136739



Dark Grey and Colours, 2017 Oil and Graphite on Canvas 51 x 43 Inches FG 138450



Pink and Green, 2017 Oil and Graphite on Canvas 51 x 43 Inches FG 138451



Burn Bright, 2017 $\,$ Oil, Graphite, and Gold Pigment on Canvas $\,$ 43 x 51 Inches $\,$ FG 138452



Scandinavian roots due to the region's long standing tradition for art, design and architecture inspired by natural forms. He is also fascinated by elements of the French 'Rococo' style, especially its lack of structure, and the way it embraced the bizarre and beautiful, opulently celebrating the organic and the sensuous.

- ART HISTORIAN KRISTINE FRAHM



Blue and Purple Oil and Graphite on Canvas 47 x 47 Inches FG 135294



Simonsen's work is also inspired by the stories of his compatriot, Hans Christian Andersen. Simonsen interweaves the dark and sometime dreamlike elements of fairytale into particular works. The innocent depictions of Hemlock, Henbane and Bella Donna distracts the viewer from their true poisonous motives. The work can be read like fairytales in its subtle hints at the prevailing folly and struggle of the human condition.

- ART HISTORIAN KRISTINE FRAHM

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2018

Findlay Galleries, Palm Beach, USA

2014

A Visual Diary - Wally Findlay Galleries, Palm Beach, USA

2012

Garden Tales - Galleri Christoffer Egelund, Copenhagen, Denmark Between the Trees - Wally Findlay Galleries, New York, USA

2011

Eyestorm - Barbican, London, England
Multiplied Art Fair - Christies, London, England
Where Wild Things Grow - Customs House, Newcastle upon
Tyne, England
London Art Fair - Islington, London, England

2010

Galleri Christoffer Egelund, Copenhagen, Denmark Multiplied Art Fair - Christies, London Scope Art Fair - Miami, USA Summer Exhibition - Opus Fine Art, Newcastle upon Tyne, England London Art Fair - London, England

2009

Scope Art Fair - Miami, USA Kruishoutem Museum, Belgium Beaux Arts, Bath, England London Art Fair - London, England

2008

Opus Fine Art, Newcastle upon Tyne, England Kounter Kulture - Opus Fine Art, London, England Forster Gallery, London, England Bunny Gunner, Los Angeles, USA Scope Art Fair - Basel, Switzerland London Art Fair - London, England

2007

Opus Fine Art, Newcastle upon Tyne, England Forster Gallery, London AAF New York Contemporary Art Fair - New York, USA Fairfax Gallery, Tunbridge Wells and London

2006

Chase Charity Exhibition - Royal College, London, England Byard Gallery, Cambridge, England Fairfax Gallery, Tunbridge Wells and London Chase Exhibition - Royal College, London, England Fairfax Gallery, Tunbridge Wells and London, England Royal Opera House, London, England

2005

Fairfax Gallery, Tunbridge Wells and London, England Gallery 54 Mayfair, London, England AAF New York Contemporary Art Fair - New York, USA The Curwen Gallery, London Art London, London, England Byard Gallery, Cambridge, England Hicks Gallery, Wimbledon, England Worx of Art, Hitchin, England

2004

AAF, Battersea, London Hicks Gallery, Wimbledon, England Maltby Contemporary Art, Winchester, England Quodart, Brighton, England Carlos Galai Art Foundation, Colombia

2002

The White Gallery, Brighton, England Maltby Contemporary Art, Winchester, England

2001

The White Gallery, Brighton, England

2000

The Huntington Gallery, Los Angeles, USA Gjethus Museet, Frederiksværk, Denmark

2000

The White Gallery, Brighton, England

1998

Spacex Gallery, Exeter, England

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Alfredo Gallery, Venice, Italy

1996

3 1/2 Gallery, Montclair, New Jersey, USA

EDUCATION

2003 - 2004 Sotheby's Institute of Art, London, England

1999 Residency, Venice, Italy

1995 - 1998 Exeter College of Art and Design, Exeter, England

1996 Montclair University, New Jersey, USA

1995 Krabbesholm, Skive, Denmark

PUBLIC COLLECTION

Shoes or No Shoes Permanent Collection, Museum in Kruishoutem, Belgium Langham Hotel, London, England
St. Prancas Renaissance Hotel Art Collection, London, England
Swissotel Krasnye Holmy Hotel, Moscow, Russia
Maersk Corporation, London, England
Langham Hotel, London, England

PUBLICATIONS

2013 Back cover of the SoHo House Magazine

2010 The Magazine Scandinavia

2009 Henrik Simonsen, Art of England

2008 Breaking the Mould, Artist and Illustrators

2007 Country Living

2006 Sussex Life

2002 Henrik Simonsen, and Vistor Pasmore, White Gallery, Hove, The Argus

