



PRESS RELEASE

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Berlin Fellowship 2019

Chris Hood from Los Angeles is Berlin Fellow 2019

Villa Aurora & Thomas Mann House e.V. and 68projects, the project space of Galerie Kornfeld, is pleased to announce this year's Berlin Fellow **Chris Hood**. The Los Angeles-based painter will work in Berlin until November 2012. Villa Aurora & Thomas Mann House e.V. launched the Berlin Fellowship to facilitate encounters between artists from the United States and Villa Aurora Alumni.

On October 30th, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. **Chris Hood** and the art-critic, academic and consultant **Drew Hammond** will have a public conversation about their perspectives on the Berlin art scene and Hood's work (Atelierhöfe, Mengerzeile 1-3, 12435 Berlin).

From November 22nd, 2019 his paintings will be exhibited at 68projects (Fasanenstraße 68, 10719 Berlin).

Chris Hood is a painter who currently lives and works in Los Angeles. He holds a BFA from Georgia State University and MFA from the San Francisco Art Institute.

Though representational in nature, Chris Hood's paintings reflect an understanding of abstraction in which personal and social imagery collide in the 21st-century. Combining traditional techniques with the languages of digital territories, his work often features images culled from the American counterculture, art history, and mass media rendered abstract by translation. The paintings are cast in a liminal surface space with a unique reverse stain technique that rests his compositions in ambiguous and perceptual tension. Likening them to faded advertisements or T-shirts turned inside out, Hood invests the evocative physicality of his paintings with themes of identity, memory, and loss. The works hint at challenges to the idea of static perspective while pointing to larger questions concerning the role of images and contemporary painting.

"I have a preference for clichés. They can be fluid in their ability to describe something profoundly real and also be without meaning in their obviousness. Much like the influx of daily images coded, translated, and misread my practice reflects on the sensation of finding oneself in a slippery amalgam of coalescence and entropy. New and old forms are spliced, reinterpreted, internalized, and regurgitated reflecting on eternal themes at the dawn of a new era." (Chris Hood)

He has had solo exhibitions at Praz Delavallade (Los Angeles), Lyles & King (New York), MIER Gallery (Los Angeles) and Galerie Bernard Ceysson (Paris) and group exhibitions including The Zuckerman Museum of Art, Venus Over Los Angeles (Los Angeles), CANADA (New York), Saatchi Gallery (London), and Jack Hanley (New York). Hood's work has been featured in Art in America, Elephant, Mousse, The Art Newspaper, Time Out, and New American Paintings. hoodchris.com

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Drew Hammond works worldwide as an art critic, lecturer and consultant. After several years in Berlin, he moved to Los Angeles a few years ago. Among others, he gave several lectures for several projects of the city partnership Los Angeles - Berlin. His most recent book is: James Hayward: The Non-Secular Paintings St John's Art Center, Colledgeville, Minnesota, August, 13, 2019

68projects is a private project space, founded in 2014 by Galerie Kornfeld in Fasanenstraße 68 in Berlin. The 1500 square-foot space hosts international art exhibitions, a scholarship program and independently curated projects. The scholarship program gives international artists the opportunity to live and work in Berlin for a limited period of time. The work created during this period is presented either in an individual exhibitions or in a group exhibitions. www.68projects.com

Villa Aurora & Thomas Mann House e.V. (VATMH) is an independent broker of the Federal Republic of Germany fostering intellectual and artistic exchange between Germany and the United States.

The non-profit organisation awards scholarships in the fields of fine arts, film, literature and music at Villa Aurora and for scientists and intellectuals at Thomas Mann House. The two residences are located in Pacific Palisades, on the westside of Los Angeles, California. VATMH organizes cultural events in the United States as well as in Germany which are announced in a monthly [Newsletter](#).

VATMH conveys a contemporary and diverse image of Germany und facilitates common thought on our societal, cultural and political challenges. The non-profit organization

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