



Jordy Kerwick
(Australian, born 1982)

Biography

Jordy Kerwick (b. 1982, Melbourne, Australia) began his painting career in 2016. Kerwick has quickly acquired global recognition for his bold, raw and unapologetic approach to palette and pattern, executing vivid, expressionistic and highly stylized compositions. Domestic objects, predatory animals, and mythical beasts, taxidermy rugs ornamented with geometric markings, double headed king cobras, ferocious fanged tigers, and feather maned unicorns, populate his figurative canvases and create a contemporary folklore or fable that is playful, kinetic and arcane.

Known for his colorful, eclectic still-life paintings, Kerwick's latest body of work explores the fantastical elements and storied visions of the artist's interior imagination where new and unknown terrains collide. Using a variety of materials, from oil, acrylic and spray paint on canvas, to oil stick and collage on paper, the artist's "the more mistakes, the merrier" approach rejoices in the fortuitous relationships that arise between unexpected combinations of color, texture, and form.

Kerwick's striking visual language stems largely from his domestic lifestyle. Art historical references are entangled with ancient iconography. Symbols from Egyptian art combine with tropes from popular culture, such as the bold and electrifying color schemes of comic book series' heroes and villains.

Kerwick's most recent work draw inspiration from Gauguin's figurative, pictorial worlds, considering the gestural and the abstract in his nuanced construction of richly tactile, courageously vibrant, and flattened compositions.

Kerwick lives and works in Albi, France.

Jordy Kerwick is the number one sought-after emerging artist on Artsy.

In 'The Art Market Recap 2022,' Artsy takes a look at the major sales, trends, and artists that made an impact this year. Jordy Kerwick features prominently in the emerging category, reflecting artists who have experienced serious career momentum at galleries and auctions this year. The article states:

“Jordan Kerwick was hard to miss across the art market in 2022. The Australian artist has become increasingly known for his flat, thickly painted scenes featuring beastly creatures and charming still-life elements like stacks of books and vases of flowers. On Artsy, his following grew by 65 percent compared to last year, and the works that garnered the most bids and inquiries on the platform feature some of his best-known iconography: snakes were most desirable, followed by tigers and still lifes.

While Kerwick had a slew of shows at tastemaking galleries across the globe in the past two years—around 70 works of his sold at auction in 2022 alone, compared to a small handful in 2021. His first major auction results occurred in March, when *Untitled 7* (2021) sold for \$201,600 USD at Phillips. His current auction record was set in May, when *Chic Imagery* (2021) sold for \$272,884 USD at Christie’s.”

Selected Collections

Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain
Masahiro Maki Collection, Tokyo, Japan
The Bunker Artspace, Collection of Beth Rudin DeWoody, West Palm Beach, USA
Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, USA
Fulton Ryder (Richard Prince), New York, USA
Museo Thyssen, Madrid, Spain
Beth DeWoody Bunker Artspace Foundation, Florida, USA
Collección Solo, Madrid, Spain
Allegrias Arts Foundation, Madrid, Spain
Denver Art Museum, Denver, USA
Chu Foundation, Hong Kong AMOCA, Cardiff, United Kingdom
Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Yorkshire, United Kingdom

Selected Exhibitions

2023

Solo: *So many Sheep, So few Wolves*, Vito Schnabel Gallery, St. Moritz, Switzerland
Solo: *Jordy Kerwick*, Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza, Madrid, Spain
Solo: *Hydra vs Bear*, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, West Bretton, United Kingdom

2022

Solo: *Learn To Feel Again*, Modern Forms, London, United Kingdom
Solo: *I Want You to Remember This*, The Arts Club, London, United Kingdom
Solo: *Année du Tigre, L'Heure du Tigre*, WOAW Gallery, Hong Kong
These Days Part II, Sotheby's, Beverly Hills, USA
Artist Inspired by Music: Interscope Reimagined, Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Los Angeles, USA
Reflections: Partly Fiction, Woaw Gallery, Hong Kong

2021

Solo: *I'll Come Back Again*, Union Gallery, London, United Kingdom
High Voltage Two, Nassima Landau Foundation, Tel Aviv, Israel
This Must Be The Place, Villa Schöningen, Potsdam, Germany
Contaminations, G/art/en, Como, Italy

2020

Solo: *The Three Month Dream*, PIERMARQ*, Sydney, Australia
Don't Give a Damns, curated by Sasha Bogojev, Marian Cramer Projects, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Abstraction/Figuration, Engelund Sämlingen, Vrå, Denmark

2019

Solo: *Fatal Purity*, Masahiro Maki Gallery, Tokyo, Japan; Paris, France
Solo: *Summer Marathon*, Beers London, London, United Kingdom
From Europe with Love, PIERMARQ*, Sydney, Australia

2018

Solo: *Outro*, PIERMARQ*, Sydney, Australia
CHRISP, Helium Cowboy, Hamburg, Germany
Flowers, PIERMARQ*, Sydney, Australia
Angry Boys Part Two, Museum Det Ny Kastet, Thisted, Denmark

2017

Paper Cuts, curated by Kristian Day, London, United Kingdom
We Are The Ones..., CSK Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark
Precious Memories, Auto LP, Melbourne, Australia

2016

New Slang, Den-holm Studio's, Melbourne, Australia
Local Group Show, Seventh Gallery, Melbourne, Australia