

“Superposition: Johnny Abrahams Curates New Show @ Joshua Liner Gallery, NYC”
Jessica Ross / March 30, 2018



Evan Robarts, *Untitled (Tenant)*, 2017

This month, artist Johnny Abrahams has curated a very special exhibition at Joshua Liner Gallery in New York. Featuring the works of fourteen artists, both emerging and established, Abraham’s show dissects the visual components of form and color within the contemporary realm of minimalism. Through a variety of visual styles and methods, Superposition places fourteen artists in conversation with one another in order to create an exhibition that is both visually engaging and challenging for the viewer.

“Superposition” considers each artists’ unique processes and methods, more so than most exhibitions - resulting in a distinct showcase. According to the gallery “‘Superposition’ is a term borrowed from quantum mechanics, referencing the ability of electrons and other atomic building blocks to exist in multiple places and states at the same time. With precise observation these atomic elements can reveal seemingly paradoxical positions simultaneously. This show seeks to contextualize work that shares a certain visual nuance and subtlety by locating individual works in discrete relation to each other, revealing surprising insights through the possibility of alternate and contradictory states.”



Johnny Abrahams posing next to his painting, *Untitled*, 2018

While each work is singular in its aesthetic and style, Abrahams has carefully designed the exhibition to create a dialogue and connection between the works. Each piece beautifully plays off each other via their differences and similarities. A detailed approach to construction, composition and color links many artists together but it's also their contradictions that make it interesting. Take for example the work of Evan Roberts. He uses a mop and plaster technique to achieve his bold, painterly tile pieces while artist Stephen Sample takes a base material such as metal sheeting and aggressively molds and deforms it until it reaches his desired shape. Through additive and subtractive methods, each artist starts with industrial materials while utilizing very different techniques to complete their work.

When looking at the curator's contribution and Joshua Evan's work (placed side by side no less) it's clear that even though they are both employing flat black and geometric compositions, their work couldn't be more different. From the gallery - "The curved shapes and glossy, textured surface of Abraham's work contradict the sharp edges and matte, void-like quality of Evan's canvas. Evan presents the viewer with absence, a portal to climb through and lose themselves, whereas Abraham's high gloss surface presents a mirror, inviting the viewer to confront themselves and their surrounding environment."

"Superposition" is on view at Joshua Liner Gallery March 22nd through April 21st, 2018. The exhibition features the works of Alain Biltreyst, Louise Blyton, Joshua Evan, Elise Ferguson, Indrikis Gelzis, Michelle Grabner, Vanha Lam, Alicia McCarthy, Tessa Perutz, Evan Roberts, Stephen Sample, Kevin Umaña, Susan York, and Johnny Abrahams.

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