

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
LIONEL SMIT: Exposure

Opening reception: Wednesday, March 8, 6-8pm
March 8 - April 1 2023

Everard Read CIRCA Gallery

V&A Waterfront, Ulundi House
Portwood Road, Cape Town

Everard Read CIRCA Gallery presents *Exposure*. Lionel Smit's latest exhibition of painting, sculpture and film explores the theme of exposure.



Lionel Smit working on *Constructed Obstacles*

Celebrating 10 years with Everard Read, Lionel Smit's latest body of work demonstrates how forms of revelation and systems of exposure bear on the life and the world of the artist.

Cape Town (ZA), 02 February 2023 – This March, the Cape Town-based *Everard Read CIRCA* gallery, is launching a new collection of work by local artist, Lionel Smit. Smit's exhibition reveals a deep understanding of image creation as a technological enterprise. With the camera serving as a point of connection, Smit asks what we expose to the lens and, by implication, to a larger public audience. The exhibition will be on view at the gallery from 8 March to 1 April 2023.

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This exhibition also offers Smit the opportunity to reflect on the various art traditions that have influenced his own artistic output. We see the extreme abstraction, wild brushwork and vivid colours of the *Fauves* brought into conversation with subjects harking back to the *Classical Art Movement*. The result is a dynamic tension between the simplified and the detailed, the raw and the refined.

"With human figures moving in and out of focus, Smit strategically uses blurred surfaces to speak of our relation to the world. In some work, it seems as if the human is emerging from some otherworldly realm, slowly drifting into focus and definition." - Prof Ernst van der Wal, Department of Visual Arts, Stellenbosch University

#LionelSmitExposure

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Visual Construct, 2023, oil on linen, 80x100cm

About Lionel Smit

Lionel Smit was born in Pretoria in 1982, and lives and works in Cape Town, South Africa. His artistic diversity is pursued through a variety of mediums, and he is best known for his contemporary portraiture. Smit's work has been the subject of several international solo exhibitions. His painting has been exhibited at the *National Portrait Gallery* in London receiving the *Visitors' Choice - BP Portrait Award 2013*. Museum shows include solo exhibitions at *MOCA Miami (Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami)* and at the *Didrichsen Art Museum in Helsinki, Finland*.

www.lionelsmit.com

EVERARD READ | CAPE TOWN

Originally founded in Johannesburg in 1913, *Everard Read* is South Africa's oldest commercial gallery. Always dynamic, the gallery strives to maximise the exposure and dissemination of fine contemporary painting and sculpture to a broad audience. An important contributor to the already vibrant cultural life of South Africa, *Everard Read/CIRCA* maintains a strong and unique identity for itself.

Lionel Smit Studio

The home of Lionel Smit is an awe-inspiring studio located in the historical Paardevlei precinct in Somerset West, 40 km from the City of Cape Town, South Africa. Lionel Smit Studio aspires to serve all people through exploring and experiencing art and creativity, as well as encouraging curiosity and appreciation of the world of visual art.

Press

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