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**LANDON METZ:**

*The sky isn't really blue*

von Bartha, Copenhagen

March 26 – May 14, 2022

Private view: 25 March 2022, 5 – 7pm



Von Bartha Copenhagen is delighted to present a solo exhibition by New York-based artist **LANDON METZ** from 26 March – 14 May 2022. Titled *The sky isn't really blue*, the exhibition will showcase a selection of 16 new paintings by Metz, that form part of the artists' new series exploring the varying shades and depth of the colour blue and will continue his ongoing investigation into the interrelated nature of our existence and our presence.

The title of the show takes its inspiration from the concept that the sky actually has no colour at all, but instead has been deemed blue by human experience and relative perception. The new series is a playful take on the core subject matter rooted in Metz's practice, acting as an inquiry into the nature of being and humans' necessity for reality. The dynamic canvases will use the varying shades of blue to communicate Metz's interest in seeking to shed light on the existence of a universal truth by acknowledging gaps in human understanding.

Metz has a close relationship with the city of Copenhagen, and will use the gallery's unique building – a former lighthouse located in the Carlsberg district also known as Kridttårnet – as a starting point to bring his site-responsive paintings to life. Eight of the new works will be hung in the glass dome at the top of the gallery's lighthouse tower, using the structure's natural light to emphasise the differing hues of blue dye on the raw canvases, whilst a

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further eight will be exhibited in the main space. Each work, exploring a different tone of blue, will incorporate Metz's distinctive technique, which is marked by a sensitivity to our surroundings, using carefully diluted dye poured onto raw unprimed canvas, to create a rhythmic repetition of gestural brushstrokes. The result, a series of fragmented organic forms that through washes of colour, invite the viewer to reflect on nature and the world around us.

**Landon Metz says:** "Our experience of reality is mediated by our phenomenology, I find truth hidden between the spaces of our understanding, which I consider to be the foundation of poetry."

**Director of von Bartha Copenhagen, Mamie Beth Cary says:** "I am excited to welcome Landon back to Copenhagen with an exhibition that embraces the unique architecture of Kridttårnet."

### **Notes to Editors**

#### **Gallery Facts**

##### **Copenhagen**

Address: von Bartha Copenhagen, Pasteursvej 8, DK-1799 Copenhagen

Telephone: +45 31 66 86 96

Opening Hours: Wednesday to Friday 11 am - 5 pm, Sat 11 am - 3 pm or by appointment

Admission: Free

##### **Basel**

Address: von Bartha, Kannenfeldplatz 6, 4056 Basel, Switzerland

Telephone: + 41 61 322 1000

Opening Hours: Tuesday to Friday 2 - 6 pm, Sat 11 am - 4 pm or by appointment

Admission: Free

Website: [www.vonbartha.com](http://www.vonbartha.com)

Twitter: @vonbartha

Facebook: galleryvonbartha

Instagram: @vonbartha

Von Bartha follows the recommendations of the Federal Office of Public Health. Information on our online events and visiting our spaces will be communicated on our website and social media channels.

#### **About von Bartha**

Initially co-founded in 1970 by Margareta and Miklos von Bartha who remain a contributing force in its strategic direction, the family-run gallery has been under the direction of Stefan von Bartha since 2008. Together, the two generations maintain an unparalleled level of expertise. Von Bartha is a trusted destination for its audiences and a place to gain knowledge of the artists and the specialist areas that they represent.

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Von Bartha presents a cutting-edge contemporary programme, representing an international roster of artists working across a diverse range of media including Superflex, Terry Haggerty, John Wood & Paul Harrison, Anna Dickinson, Sarah Oppenheimer, and Felipe Mujica amongst others. The gallery nurtures new generations of artists, whilst supporting the continually evolving practice of their established artists.

As one of the longest-running international contemporary art galleries, von Bartha continues to support the careers of influential artists such as Camille Graeser, Fritz Glarner and Olle Baertling. It facilitates discovery across the generations, and has a track record of fostering the careers of some of the leading artists of the 20th Century with a focus on Constructivism; Concrete art; and Op art.

Located in Basel, one of the world's most important centres for the display of art, and Copenhagen, a hub for innovative art, design and fashion, von Bartha brings together international and local art audiences across these two locations. Von Bartha creates a unique platform of events and programming including salons, openings, and exhibitions beyond the walls of the gallery, inspiring and informing audiences by making new connections and offering a fresh perspective. Von Bartha publishes books, exhibition catalogues and its own online magazine "Stories" featuring interviews, essays and insights to the gallery's work and programme. Read more at [www.vonbartha.com/stories](http://www.vonbartha.com/stories)

For more information about artists in the von Bartha gallery programme, please visit: <https://www.vonbartha.com/artists>

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