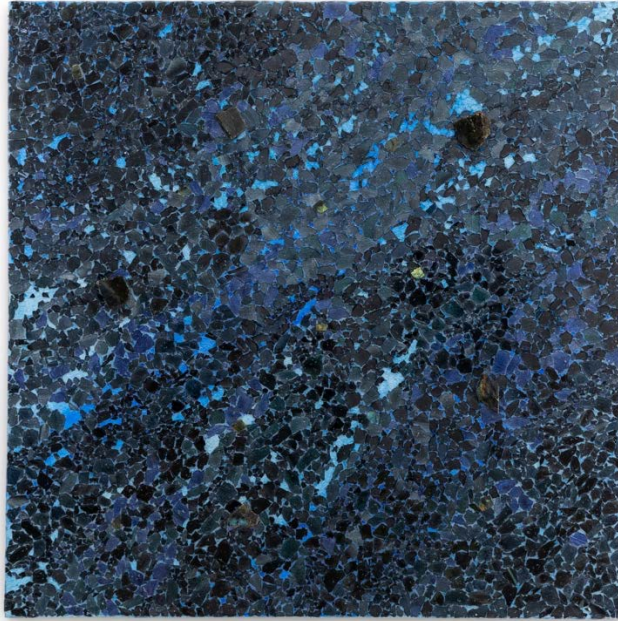


Bode Projects Presents Solo Booth by Alteronce Gumby at Zona Maco

9 February – 13 February 2022



Alteronce Gumby
Look until you understand, 2022
48 x 48in, Glass and gemstones on panel

Bode Projects is pleased to present a solo booth by **Alteronce Gumby** at Zona Maco. Featuring black gemstones in waves of color, the work is inspired by the artist's first trip to Mexico City; in particular, an experience he had at Teotihuacan, The Pyramid of the Sun. Through the work, Gumby ruminates on the Aztecs' cosmic perspective as well as their use of obsidian, a naturally occurring volcanic rock. A multifunctional mineral, obsidian held both symbolic and practical uses for Mesoamericans that extended from decorative jewelry to mirrors and ritualistic weapons.

In this new body of work, Gumby incorporates black obsidian, labradorite, shungite, black tourmaline and black kyanite, considering the meaning of the color black through material, energy, art history, social color codes and the associations of grounding and protection. Inspired by artists such as Ad Reinhardt, Pierre Soulages and Mark Rothko – all of whom explored the dark tonality in color – Gumby's pieces delve into the allure of darkness while exploring the cosmic energy of light. By mixing fluorescent colors with black gemstones, a vibrant undertone is brought to the work. A bit of a push-pull occurs here, much like the constant contrasts and energies of life.

BODE

Alteronce Gumby (b. 1985) is an American, New York City based contemporary artist whose practice includes painting, ceramics, installation and performance. Gumby's work has been exhibited in North America, Europe, and Asia. In his recent exhibition *Cross Colours* at Bode Projects in Berlin, the power of complementary colours is presented in works that reference colour exercises in Joseph Albert's *Interaction of Colour*. Through Gumby's fluorescent and chromatic spectrum of iridescent colour, the artist engages the viewer and expands the notions through which we perceive form and colour, the subjectivity on identity, the materiality on earth and in cosmic space.

Alteronce Gumby graduated from the Yale School of Art with an MFA in Painting and Printmaking in 2016. He has won notable awards such as the Austrian American Foundation/ Seebacher Prize for Fine Arts and the Robert Reed Memorial Scholarship. Gumby has also participated in numerous international artist residencies such as the Rauschenberg Residency (2019), London Summer Intensive (2016), Summer Academy in Salzburg, Austria (2015), 6Base (2016), and as the 2016 recipient of the Harriet Hale Woolley Scholarship at the Fondation des États-Unis in Paris. His work was featured in publications such as BOMB Magazine, Frieze & Vogue. Gumby has also curated exhibitions such as *To Dream Avante-Garde* at Hammond Harkins Galleries and *A Muffled Sound Under Water* at Latchkey Gallery. Gumby has published his first monograph, *Color Is A Beautiful Thing*, with Charles Moffett & False Flag outlining 6 years of his painting practice from 2014- 2020.

Bode Projects is a Berlin based contemporary gallery that collaborates with an international and diverse range of contemporary artists working across different media and disciplines. Engaging with their practice in new and unique ways, the gallery works with artists that explore and challenge traditional notions of representation. Bode Projects also collaborates with partners, curators and institutions while running an artist-in-residence program in Berlin.



Alteronce Gumby
Studio portrait, 2022

Press Inquiries:

Bode Projects

Dominique Suberville

press@bode-projects.com

ALMA Communications

Hannah Gottlieb-Graham

hannah@almacommunications.co