

Adjacent

Beneath the Surface Quentin Germain 13.03 — 20.04.24



OPENING

Wednesday 13.03 18h — 21h

Saturday 16.03 16h — 20h

Adjacent

Submerged in the underwater depths, **Quentin Germain** invites us into the abyss, into forgotten or imaginary landscapes. His materialities confront profound contents, conceptual and emotional substance, philosophical and narrative dimensions.

Quentin Germain takes us to 2124 or simply tomorrow. Maybe it was yesterday too. In the Atlantic, near the Mariana Trench, in the North Pacific or at the foot of Étretat, the artist confronts us with our traces, our ruins. Instilling an eternity into these aquatic landscapes, he extends his mysterious world and plays with materials: concrete, steel, acid, metals and traces of the living to tell of the shadow of unbridled human activity. His gaze takes us far away, facing the tarnishing of the millennia-old oceanic work. He questions our commitment to preserving the unfathomable depths.

Quentin elevates our awareness to the grandeur and vulnerability of the abysses. Reminding us of our sacred duty, our mission to rescue the tragedy of the ephemeral waves and invisible masterpieces within the Oceans.

All this journey, in absolute mystery, questions us about the substance of what we see, the commitment we make to it, and quite simply the forms that are placed before our eyes. In *Utilité du beau*, Victor Hugo declaims: «What we call the substance is only the surface, and that the true substance is the form, that eternal form which, in the unfathomable mystery of Beauty, is linked to the absolute» (1860).
To you, Beneath the Surface.

Rémi Heintz
Art collector

Adjacent



Quentin Germain, *Memento Mori* (HQ2 Metropolitan Park, Arlington), oil and concrete on oxidized steel, 150 x 200 cm, 2024

24 rue des Grands Augustins
75006 Paris
France

T. + 33(0) 1 89 31 09 91
www.adjacent-gallery.com
contact@adjacent-gallery.com

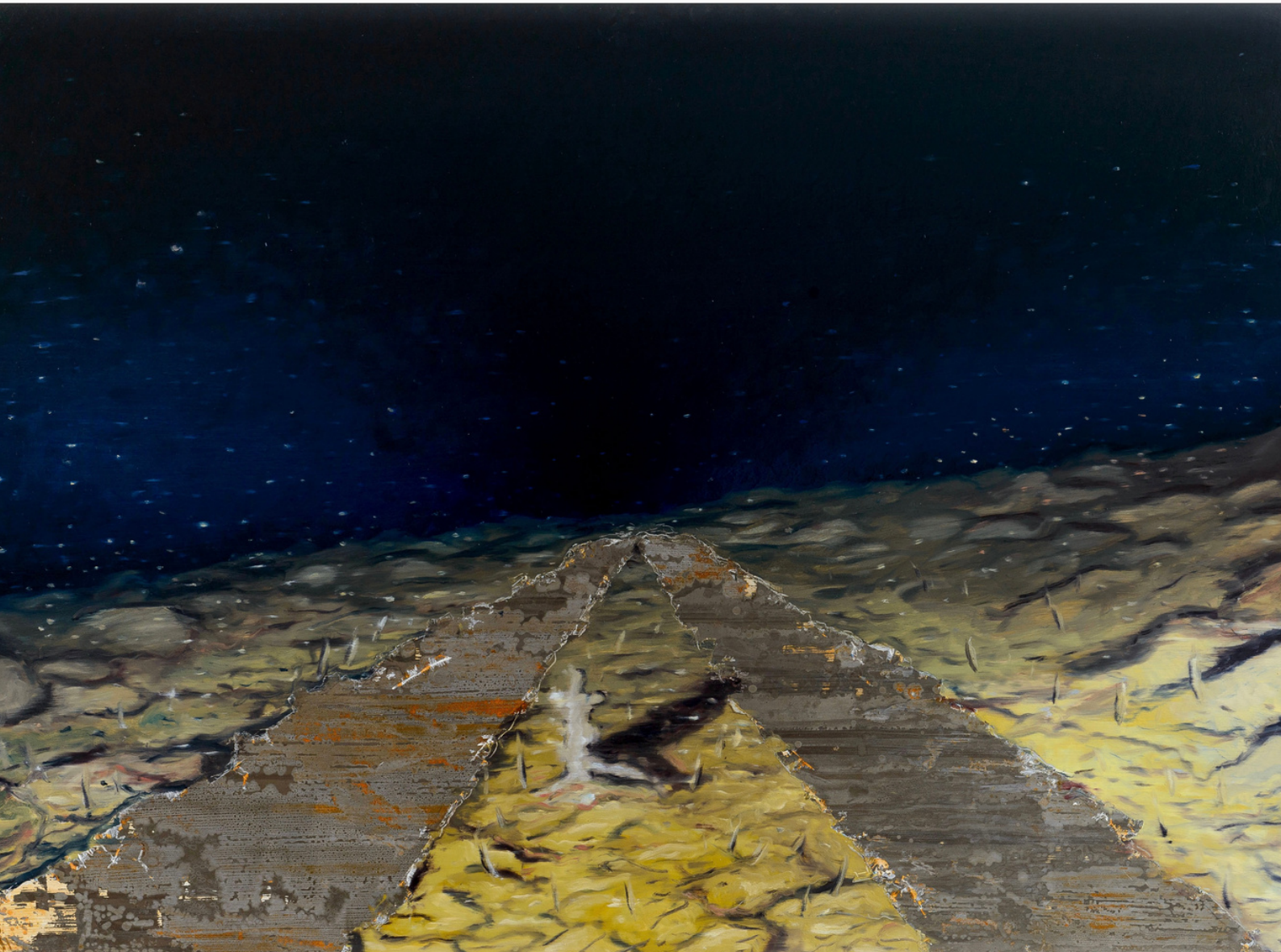
Wednesday — Saturday
2pm — 7pm
and by appointment

Adjacent



Quentin Germain, *Reliquat 1*, steel, concrete, seaweed, shell (display case: solid oak and glass) 150 x 50 x 50 cm. 2019-2023

Adjacent



Quentin Germain, *Deep depths perspective*, oil on oxidized steel, 70 x 100 cm. 2023

24 rue des Grands Augustins
75006 Paris
France

T. + 33(0) 1 89 31 09 91
www.adjacent-gallery.com
contact@adjacent-gallery.com

Wednesday — Saturday
2pm — 7pm
and by appointment

Adjacent

Quentin Germain



BIOGRAPHIE

Quentin Germain, born in 1987, grew up in Saudi Arabia and Brazil, before settling in Paris as a child. He studied at CAFA in Beijing, and at the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris, where he graduated in 2012.

Since 2020 he is a permanent resident in POUISH, the largest art incubator in Paris. In 2021, he won the public open call Mondes Nouveaux, funded by the french Ministry of Culture, with a project of monumental underwater sculpture, that should be inaugurated in the course of 2024.

His work has been showed in group and solo exhibition in France and abroad: Brazil, Belgium, Corea, Serbia.

His work focuses on the relationship between Nature and Culture, building a dialogue between these concepts through the figure of ruins. Combining human techniques and natural processes, like oxydation, Quentin Germain intends to reflect on the passage of Time and explores the cycle of creation and destruction, and the metamorphosis between them.

Early on, his keen interest in fiction and comic books pushed him to narrate stories through images. Fascinated by romantic painters as well as archeology and architecture, he is taken by the aesthetics of the sublime that comes through the contemplation of great landscapes, and their metaphoric power. The cinematographic world (David Lynch, Andreï Tarkovski, Werner Herzog) plays an important part in his reflection on lighting effects, the relationship to the spectator and the frame. He also finds endless inspiration in scientific imageries.

It is through the prism of urban "non-spaces", a topic researched during his studies at Beaux-Arts, that he undertook his work as a painter and sculptor. Highways, parking lots and industrial zones are a part of contemporary landscapes, and are reminiscent of the fact that virgin spaces no longer quite exist since man has colonized land.

Since 2016 he is inspired by even more remote landscapes: the deep depths. There, he settles dystopian scenes of ruins, wrecks and abandoned cities, using different medias such as painting, sculpture installation and video. In all his works, his main objective is to create a dialog between Nature and Culture. Uniting these concepts through his subject - the possible remnants of our civilization, and through his various mediums: painting on oxidated steel, immersing concrete sculptures in the ocean to be finished by non-humane processes, or creating monumental underwater installations working as artificial reefs for ocean sealife.

In 2023 he inaugurates a new cycle reintroducing the humane figure in his allegoric landscapes.

Adjacent

PRESS RELATION

Yves Mirande
The Seeds Company
yves@the-seeds-company.com
+33 6 62 18 46 90