

# NOVO

## Press Release

### **Bright Beneath** **Kristian Touborg**

Solo Show

**Dates:** December 9, 2021 – February 5, 2022

**Opening reception:** December 9, 6.00 – 9.00 pm

From **December 9 2021 to February 5 2022**, **NOVO Milano** is pleased to present "**Bright Beneath**", the first solo show in **Milan** by **Kristian Touborg**. Previously exhibited within Eduardo Secci's program, the exhibition is the second project dedicated to the work of the young Danish artist.

Shifting away from the emphasis on sculptural approaches to painting that have informed recent exhibitions, for this new body of work the artist returns to a more intimately figurative and narrative style, situated within a richly saturated emotional environment.

Whilst continuing to combine synthetic materials, oil painting technique and digital tools, Kristian Touborg's core practice - with its focus on materiality and spatial presence - turns its attention towards complex inner dimensions rather than the general qualities derived from the study of forms.

Motifs from the Touborg's's daily life are elevated to the status of symbols, gaining universal psychological and emotional significance in the process. Elements of the uncanny and the mysterious are blended with humour and a sense of tranquility to create a complex but coherent visual language. These works are filled with references to the artist's boyhood and to the familial sphere. However the division between truth and the imaginary is blurred and the paintings revel in the dance between abstraction and figuration, digital and painterly sensibilities and existential concerns with death and celebrations of life. The cumulative effect is akin to something of an aesthetic synesthesia.

Driven by a democratic use of technical reproduction and reconstruction, Kristian Touborg's artistic practice involves the merging of physical and digital contexts. Drawings integrate with phone photographs, which are then rendered, printed onto fabrics and painted over. Through such a process Touborg renegotiates the typical understanding of various techniques associated with image sharing and editing tools.

**Kristian Touborg** (Denmark, 1987) lives and works in Copenhagen. He obtained an MA in Fine Art from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts (2009-2016). Kristian Touborg has been the protagonist of several solo-shows: Galerie Mikael Anderson, Balancing Time Between Your Eyes (Copenhagen, 2020); Galleri Jacob Bjørn, Aarhus (Denmark, 2018); Roskilde Palæ, (Roskilde, 2017); A Deep Hum (Copenhagen, 2015); Strange Attraction (Aarhus, 2015); Bell Jar Tourism, (Copenhagen, 2014). Selected institutional exhibitions and group shows include: Herring Museum of Contemporary Art, Socle du Monde Biennale: Welcome Back My Friends to the Show that Never Ends, HEART (Herring, 2021); Tove Storch, Carvalho Park (New York, 2021); Ahs Museum (Videbæk, 2018); Sixtyeight Art Institute (Copenhagen, 2017); No stereo, Cascais, Portugal (2017); The Hospital, Los Angeles (2016); Taf Art Space (Athens, 2016); Taarnby Art Museum (Copenhagen, 2016); Den Frie Center for Contemporary Art (Copenhagen, 2014).

## **Press Contacts**

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