

Michael Williams

**MAKE PLANS
GOD APPLAUDS**

Michael Williams – MAKE PLANS GOD APPLAUDS

28 August – 7 November 2021

The Kunstzone (art space) in the Lokremise

«Generally speaking, for me making paintings is about trying to figure things out. It's not about trying to say something.»

Michael Williams: 2015, Kat. Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, 9 June – 27 September 2015, pg. 30.

In 2020 and 2021, Michael Williams created six large-scale paintings for the Lokremise in St. Gallen, which are presented there for the first time. In Los Angeles, where he has lived with his family since 2019, the situation was the same as around the world. During the lockdown, his children mostly stayed at home for almost a year. There were no openings and no trips; instead, it was time to retreat to the studio.

During this period he created historical paintings in an almost classical style. The *Collage Paintings* are the result of computer-generated overlays and combinations that were applied to a canvas as paper printouts and then reworked with paint. They are collages like those that have been made since the liberating days of Dada, when photographic images from newspapers and magazines first made their way into art.

The serious restrictions on our daily life outside our own homes resulted in a natural concentration on the private sphere, so that much of our experience during the recent pandemic has been focused on the historical nuclear family. This remained our only direct contact, surrounded by a limitless trauma of global proportions. Michael Williams's pictures reflect, change, and move our gaze from outward to inward, and thus these new works have certainly incorporated aspects of this time, even though the *Collage Paintings* do not directly reference the Covid-19 pandemic. They represent a great abundance and a unique distillation of a time, and will be on view in the Kunstzone (art space) of the Lokremise.

Curator: Roland Wäspe



Michael Williams

*1978 in Doylestown, Pennsylvania,
lebt und arbeitet in Los Angeles, Kalifornien

Maive Dog, 2020

Inkjet print on canvas

297 × 214 cm

Photo: Stefan Rohner

© Michael Williams. Courtesy the artist
and Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich and New York



MPGA (4), 2020

Oil and UV print on photo paper

mounted on canvas

247,65 × 398,78 cm

Photo: Stefan Rohner

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Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich and New York,
Gladstone Gallery, New York and Brussels
and David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles



MPGA (3), 2020

Oil and UV print on photo paper
mounted on canvas

247,65 × 398,78 cm

Photo: Stefan Rohner

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Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich and New York,
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and David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles



MPGA (6), 2021

Oil and UV print on photo paper
mounted on canvas

247,65 × 398,78 cm

Photo: Stefan Rohner

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and David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles



MPGA (1), 2020

Oil and UV print on photo paper
mounted on canvas

247,65 × 398,78 cm

Photo: Stefan Rohner

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MPGA (2), 2020

Oil and UV print on photo paper
mounted on canvas

247,65 × 398,78 cm

Photo: Stefan Rohner

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MPGA (5), 2021

Oil and UV print on photo paper
mounted on canvas

247,65 × 398,78 cm

Photo: Stefan Rohner

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Gladstone Gallery, New York and Brussels
and David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles



Atomic Man, 2020

Ink pen and ballpoint pen on paper

30,2 × 22,8 cm

Photo: Stefan Rohner

© Michael Williams. Courtesy the artist

Exhibition texts
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