

• FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE •

Gustav Hamilton

Forgot I left you here

October 25 — November 22, 2025
Opening Reception: Saturday, October 25, 5–8 pm
Free and open to the public | Artist in attendance

David B. Smith Gallery is proud to welcome back Brooklyn, NY-based artist Gustav Hamilton for his second solo show with the gallery, *Forgot I left you here*. Presented in the Main Gallery, Hamilton's new body of acrylic on panel paintings with glazed ceramic inlays in handmade wood frames showcase the artist's painterly and sculptural skills.

With a long history of working with ceramic materials, Hamilton's current treatment of the material spans 2D and 3D realms. Much of the work in *Forgot I left you here* features ceramic components affixed to acrylic on panel surfaces, depicting complex, delightfully weird compositions that speak to the subconscious, personal narrative, and nods to the work of influential ceramic artists. From these surfaces there are occasional glazed ceramic 3D elements that emerge from the depicted imagery—a vase form, butterflies, and cans of coffee are among the ceramic items inlaid into Hamilton's panel paintings.

An artist trained institutionally in the world of studio ceramics, Hamilton has developed personal relationships with titans in ceramic art world spheres. Works in the exhibition depict notable works by artists Rudy Autio, Andrea Gill, and John Gill. The artist's personal history with these professors, who have shaped generations of students and American ceramics as a whole, follow a long line of classically trained masters of the ceramic medium. In this way, Hamilton's work continues in a rich tradition, while boldly advancing his personal artistic vision.

There is an innate humor and sociability readily perceptible in the work of Hamilton; the works are fun and conversational, open and genuine, and seem to invite viewers to meaningfully, if not playfully, engage. Viewers will encounter surreal scenes that challenge perception as foreground and background intermingle along tiled patterning glazed onto the large ceramic tiles themselves. Set into finely treated wooden frames custom made by the artist, the overall effect is one of delightful content and familiar reference points met by the skill of an adept craftsman.

Rife with imagery and personal symbol including birds, candles, and portal-like windows and archways, *Forgot I left you here* by Gustav Hamilton marks the artist's further development of a style that both reaches back into the catacombs of art history, both ceramic and painting, while carving a path forward the bridges the two.

About Gustav Hamilton

Gustav Hamilton (b. 1990, Everett, WA) was raised in Fargo, ND and currently lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. He received his MFA from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University and his BFA from the University of Montana. He is currently a Studio Manager and Designer at BKLYN CLAY. He has exhibited most recently at David B. Smith Gallery in Denver, as well as Zoe Fisher Projects, The Hole, The Alfred Ceramic Art Museum, Fisher Parrish Gallery, and Ross + Kramer Gallery in New York, and Moskowitz Bayse and Ochi Projects in Los Angeles. Hamilton's work is featured in the Jorge M. Perez Collection and the Fidelity Art Collection.



Gustav Hamilton, *Madonna on the sill*, 2025, acrylic and glazed ceramic on panel in artist-made frame, 38 x 48 in. (96.5 x 121.9 cm)

About David B. Smith Gallery

David B. Smith Gallery is committed to presenting intelligent and culturally relevant exhibitions in its Denver location, featuring the region's most important emerging talent alongside internationally recognized artists. Through its curatorial program, participation in art fairs, and extensive media coverage in publications such as *Artforum*, *Art in America*, and *ARTnews*, David B. Smith Gallery has cultivated a strong regional, national and international collector audience. *The New York Times* hailed the gallery as offering "an exciting contrast of cutting edge works." The gallery also maintains an active publishing division, which produces exhibition catalogues and editions.

David B. Smith Gallery is a member of the New Art Dealers Alliance (NADA).

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