

• FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE •

David B. Smith (Brooklyn, NY)
Same but Different

May 15, 2021 – June 19, 2021

Socially Distanced Opening Reception: Saturday, May 15th, 2021, from 12 - 5pm

No appointment necessary, facemask required for entry, maximum 10 people admitted at a time, free and open to the public

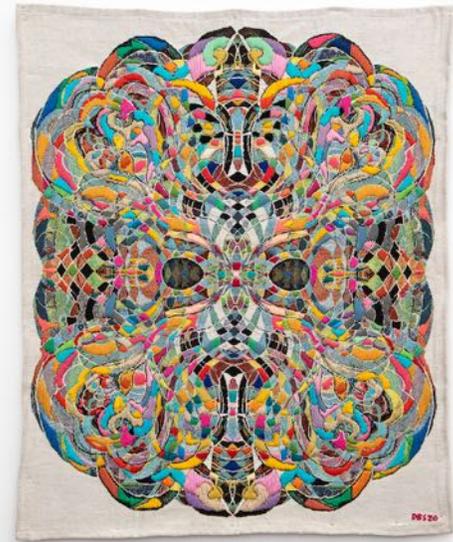


Image: David B. Smith, *Mask 1*, 2020, Embroidery on artist-designed tapestry, wood backing, 31 x 26 in.

David B. Smith Gallery is proud to present *Same but Different*, a solo exhibition by Brooklyn-based artist David B. Smith.

What started as a humorous recognition by gallerist and artist that they share the same name led to broader questions: What is a self? What if each of us contains and shares many selves? What if other worlds existed where we can observe these selves taking actions we never made, almost did, or never even considered?

Translating these questions through textile-based, artistic processes -- embroidery, soft sculpture, prints, tufted wall-hangings, weavings, and collages -- Smith features 'pairs' of artworks made with a similar recipe of concept, materials, and process, but with slightly different outcomes, setting up a dynamic of relationality, two worlds are mirrored but not quite.



Image: David B. Smith, *Mask 2*, 2021, Embroidery on artist-designed tapestry, wood backing, 31 x 26 in.

Smith begins with found or sampled photographic images from his life and collective digital consciousness, manipulates them in Photoshop and outputs them onto fabric. He then transforms the textiles into other-worldly forms, using an intuitive language inspired by art and craft techniques such as folding, cutting, sewing, collage, painting, embroidery, and stuffing. These acts are both deconstructive and constructive, making new worlds and stories from old ones – pointing to the possibility for re-invention, transformation, healing and renewal of ourselves, our social structures, and our relationship to the environment.

Whether realized in a pair of embroidered textile masks or twinned plush figurative sculptures, these ongoing relationalities and placements of self can be both confounding and liberating. Throughout the exhibition Smith considers identifying factors that affect experience, considering the tendency to box ourselves into groups when perhaps we are something else, something more complex. In *Same but Different*, Smith unravels histories like strands of yarn, only to reassemble, entwine, and explore the connective tissue comprising systems of identity, psychology, community, and the real and imagined digital/organic ecosystems that bind us.

About David B. Smith (Brooklyn, NY)

David B. Smith holds an MFA from Bard College and lives and works in Brooklyn, NY (Lenapehoking). He has been awarded fellowships by NYSCA/NYFA and Apex Art, and residencies by Franconia Sculpture Park, MN; I-Park, CT; Socrates Sculpture Park, The Waterpod, Textile Arts Center, Alfred University, and BOFFO, NY. Smith's work has appeared in exhibitions at MoMa PS1, The International Center of Photography, Asia Song Society, 56 Henry Gallery and the Textile Biennial at the Rijswijk Museum in the Netherlands. Recent solo shows include Millersville University, SUNY Old Westbury, Halsey McKay Gallery, The Spring Break Art Show, Geary, and LMAK. Smith's work has been discussed in the New York Times, The Observer, Art Fag City, the Washington Post, and Miami New Times.

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 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" and The Denver Post declared that it is the "premiere commercial space" in Denver. The gallery also maintains an active publishing division, which produces exhibition catalogues and editions.

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