

Stephen Friedman Gallery

**Jim Hodges:
It only takes a minute**

**5–6 Cork Street
London, W1S 3LQ**

Friday 24 January –
Saturday 1 March 2025

Opening
Thursday 23 January, 6–8pm

Gallery hours:
Tuesday–Friday, 10am–6pm
Saturday 11am–5pm



Stephen Friedman Gallery is pleased to present *It only takes a minute*, a new UK solo exhibition by **Jim Hodges**. This is the American artist's fourth exhibition at the gallery.

Through materials, images, forms and gestures, reflecting on intimacy, history, values and causality, Hodges invites an enquiry into our relationship to time, its measures, and meanings.

Extending through the gallery, composed of found materials, carved marble and oil painting, in varied ranges of scale and tonality, this new body of work resonates with whimsy, humility, foreboding and mystery to highlight themes of beauty, fragility and impermanence.

Rendered in white marble and painted bronze, the familiar, modest gathering of intimate belongings to be discovered in *Craig's closet* have been captured in time. Even as they speak of the specific world, and the specific life in which these objects – clothing, keepsakes, closed forever containers – were brought together, they seem to now transcend their temporal materiality.

Of this work, Hodges writes: *“For those of us with the good fortune to have a place to hang our things, a closet is a magical container, a collection of materials, arranged by each of us, that can, at a glance, reveal our cares, desires and even our deepest secrets. Within a closet time is frozen, and in what is kept there fragmented into contrasting visual and conceptual rhythms, meters and durations. Things accumulated and arranged, carefully stacked and aligned are juxtaposed with the quickly thrown down or casually abandoned to be taken care of later or simply forgotten. Out of this dense setting narratives blossom and come alive – looking in we're reminded of who we are, where we've been, the hopes, treasures and dreams we hold. It's there in boxes concealing our heart's contours, scribbled messages on folded notes and cards, photos, records, files – all the stuff we've saved for reasons each item embodies, and all the choices made are there as well in this often hidden holding space, the closet.”*

Shifting from playful contrasting weights and tempos, from light reflections in polished marble to the twinkling wings of a butterfly night light, the exhibition moves next to a darker terrain where we are met with shadows and suggestions of memories and times long past. *It only takes a minute* draws the viewer along a path that concludes in the dimming light of the last gallery where we come upon a mysterious, looming garage space. This murky, sensual apparition, rescued from the Louisiana bayou, is a musky and erotic threshold for the senses and our imaginations to cross. There we encounter an archive of materials in a spectrum of patinas that build to create a double portrait of a father and his son.

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Throughout his evolving mixed-media practice, Hodges invites his audience to join him in the co-creation of living art – of experiences that resist mechanical reproduction and defy simple categorisation. Over decades Hodges' work with common and familiar forms has mined psychological, emotional, spiritual and social terrains that spark potent connections.

For Hodges *"...joy and inquiry are entwined in the connections and relationships that art can bring into being, transcending cultures, differences, divisions, binaries, and barriers. Valuing the common and every day we meet, to co-create the art where our shared humanity may be felt, and in feeling we can find affirmation and reminders of the delicacy, fragility and preciousness that is our human materiality. And in this materiality of site specificity, each of us shines with one another across the field of art's infinity."*

Jim Hodges is also represented by Gladstone Gallery, MASSIMODECARLO and Anthony Meier.

Notes to editors

About Jim Hodges

Jim Hodges was born in 1957 in Spokane, Washington, USA. He now lives and works in New York, USA.

In June 2023, the first iteration of Jim Hodges' sculpture 'Craig's Closet', here rendered in black granite, was commissioned by and unveiled in the New York City AIDS Memorial Park. In January 2021, Jim Hodges' installation 'I dreamed a world and called it Love', was unveiled at Grand Central Station, New York, USA. Commissioned by MTA Arts & Design, the work comprises over 5000 pieces of mirrored glass in over 70 different colours. From April to September 2019 'Unearthed', a monumental tree stump cast in bronze, went on display at Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, USA.

Selected solo and group museum and gallery exhibitions include: 'Ceremony', Gladstone Gallery, New York (2024); 'Impossible Flower', Baldwin Gallery, Aspen (2023); 'Location Proximity', Gladstone Gallery, New York (2022); 'LOVE POWER', 'LOVE POWER', Massimo de Carlo, Central, Hong Kong (2020); 'Jim Hodges', Pizzuti Collection of the Columbus Museum of Art, Ohio, USA (2019); 'Jim Hodges: silence stillness,' Anthony Meier Fine Arts, California, USA (2018); 'turning pages in the book of love / voltando pagine nel libro dell'amore,' Massimo De Carlo Gallery, Milan, Italy (2017); 'Tracing the contour of our days,' Baldwin Gallery, Colorado, USA (2017) and 'I dreamed a world and called it Love,' Gladstone Gallery, New York, USA (2016). In 2013, Hodges' retrospective exhibition was mounted by Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas touring to Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; ICA Boston, Boston and Hammer Museum, Los Angeles.

Hodges' works are included in prominent collections internationally, including Art Institute of Chicago, Illinois, USA; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, California, USA; Dallas Museum of Art, Texas, USA; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA; Miami Art Museum, Florida, USA; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C, USA; Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA; Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA; Walker Art Centre, Minnesota, USA; Musée National, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France.

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Stephen Friedman Gallery is a contemporary art gallery that was founded in 1995 with a focus on representing exceptional artists from around the world. Since its inauguration, the gallery has been based in Mayfair, London. In October 2023, the gallery expanded and relocated to Cork Street. In November 2023, the gallery opened its first location outside the UK at 54 Franklin Street in Tribeca, New York.