

SHANE
CAMPBELL
GALLERY

Art+Auction
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25 Most Collectible Midcareer Artists: William J. O'Brien

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William J. O'Brien | b. 1975 | United States



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Last year was a busy one for the Ohio-born, Chicago-based artist (b. 1975), who enjoyed a solo museum exhibition of more than 130 brightly patterned works at the Museum of Contemporary Art in the Windy City. Curated by Naomi Beckwith, the presentation evinced the diversity of O'Brien's artistic practice with its range of drawings, assemblages, and paintings along with the ceramic sculptures for which he is best known.

Other 2014 solo shows included "Six Circles: Four Squares" at Shane Campbell Gallery, which represents him in Chicago; "The Lovers" at Almine Rech Gallery in Paris; and "Water Sounds" at Taka Ishii Gallery, which represents him in Tokyo.

Works by O'Brien are in the permanent collections of the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles, the Pérez Art Museum in Miami, the Hara Museum of Art in Tokyo, and the Art Institute of Chicago, among others.

Marianne Boesky Gallery in New York has represented O'Brien since he first appeared in a two-person show there in 2007; his first solo show at the gallery was in 2009.

During Armory Week 2014, a large group of O'Brien's sculptures at Boesky's booth sold out. His works tend to be priced between \$10,000 and \$25,000; large-scale sculptures, however, can reach upwards of \$65,000. In January 2016, the Boesky gallery will present new ceramic sculptures by the artist as part of a curated group exhibition in its uptown location.