

SHANE CAMPBELL GALLERY

Artforum
February 2015

Hong Kong

Shio Kusaka and Jonas Wood

GAGOSIAN | HONG KONG

12 Pedder Street, 7/F Pedder Building
January 16, 2015–February 28, 2015

Potter Shio Kusaka and painter Jonas Wood share an obsession with vessels as pictorial tropes. Along with other artistic couples maintaining independent practices—such as painter Madelon Vriesendorp and architect Rem Koolhaas, whose dual visual pursuit of surrealist architectonics is strengthened by both their lines of work—Wood and Kusaka converse with the same muses without the stamp of collaboration. Fresh and hospitable, this exhibition of their work conjures an impression of prolific artistic endeavors in a continuous evolution, all born from their Los Angeles studio.

Here, the glazes on Kusaka's porcelain and stoneware, inspired by her children's toys and games and her husband's use of color, evolve from geometric to figurative. Accordingly, her numbered "(Dinosaur)" series from 2014 is composed of black and red amphoras which depict landscapes with dinosaurs. There's also the more abstract installation (*Fruits 10*), 2014, which tightly gathers different colored jars together including a few red-pink pitchers with dots like strawberries seeds.

More than the sum of their parts, Wood's paintings of sunny interiors with plants in turn echo his wife's ceramics while serving as an homage to Matisse's moorish interiors or David Hockney's leafy palettes. One such work, *Red Studio Pot*, 2014, is an oil and acrylic painting of a red pot decorated with a Mediterranean studio or living room, while *Black Still Life Collage*, 2012, is a collaged study on paper showing shelves bearing multipatterned vases of flowers and plants, further hinting at the environment the artists share.

— Cristina Sanchez-Kozyreva



Jonas Wood, *Red Studio Pot*, 2014, oil and acrylic on canvas, 72 x 72".

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