

Tanya Leighton

Press Release

Oliver Osborne
'BOTTICELLI'

6 July – 17 August 2024
Preview: Friday 5 July, 6–8pm

Tanya Leighton, Berlin, is pleased to announce 'Botticelli', a solo exhibition presenting five new paintings by Oliver Osborne.

The exhibition takes its name both from the artist Sandro Botticelli (c. 1445 - 1510) and from the game his name inspired. In the game *Botticelli*, one person or team thinks of a famous individual and reveals the initial letter of their name. Other players then ask yes or no questions to guess the identity, requiring a good knowledge of biographical details of famous people. The game takes its name from the principle that the chosen person must be at least as famous as Sandro Botticelli.



Fig. 2 o. T. (Cello Recital), 2024
Oil on herringbone linen
110.5x70.5 cm

2024 (fig. 2) takes as its subject an image from a cello recital at the *Freie Interkulturelle Waldorfschule Berlin* that took place in July 2023, as well as an image of a young boy taken in December 2023 near Kinross, Scotland. *Untitled*,

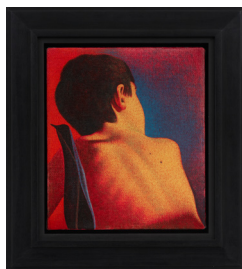


Fig. 4 Study for March, 2024
Oil on linen
28.5x24.5 cm

2024 (fig. 3), is a multifigure composition using four angels from Botticelli's *Raczyński Tondo* (see fig. 1) as well as the same young boy that appears in *o. T. (Cello Recital)* (see fig. 2). *Study for March, morning II*, 2024 (fig. 4), began with a photograph on a Sunday morning in Berlin in March 2024. The final painting in the show, and the most recent, is *Portrait of a Youth (after Filippino Lippi)*, 2024 (fig. 5), which the artist created after the Filippino Lippi (c. 1457 - 1504) painting in the National Gallery of Art, Washington. The Lippi painting comes so close to Botticelli's style that there has been considerable disagreement among scholars as to exactly which artist is responsible for it. While it has frequently been attributed to Botticelli, most recent scholarship agrees that it is the work of Filippino.



Fig. 1 Botticelli, 2023-24
Oil on herringbone linen
28x24 cm



Fig. 3 Untitled, 2023
Oil on linen
40x45 cm



Fig. 5 Portrait of a Youth (after
Filippino Lippi), 2024
Oil on herringbone linen
35x30 cm

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Oliver Osborne (born 1985 in Edinburgh, lives and works in Berlin) has held solo exhibitions at Tanya Leighton, Los Angeles and Galeria Pelaires, Palma de Mallorca in 2023; Tanya Leighton, Berlin, JVDW, Düsseldorf, and Union Pacific, London in 2022; The Bunker, Santa Monica and Galeria Pelaires, Palma de Mallorca in 2021; Braunsfelder, Cologne in 2020; Peles Empire, Berlin, Gió Marconi, Milan, and Bonner Kunstverein, Bonn in 2019, among others. Osborne's work will be included in a group exhibition at Clearing, New York in 2024. Past group exhibitions include JVDW, Düsseldorf and Francis Iry, New York in 2024; La Traverse, Marseille and Union Pacific, London in 2023; Pas une Orange, Barcelona; Pact, Paris in 2022; Inverleith House, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh; Max Hetzler, Berlin; and the German Embassy, London. In 2025 he will hold a solo exhibition at the Fondazione ICA Milano.

His work has been the subject of catalogues published by Braunsfelder, Cologne, 2020; Bonner Kunstverein, 2018 and Mousse, 2016.

For more information please contact info@tanyaleighton.com or telephone +49(0)30221607770.

The gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday, 11 am–6 pm and by appointment.