

## Galerie Rompone

**Sebastian Hermida** @Salone Rompone

11. November 2023 - 20. Januar 2024

### **\*Are there themes and questions that we see again and again in your pictures?**

More than themes, they are the everyday situations in which I live. They are themes that I like and that I return to again and again as pictorial elements, and which I naturally take as basic themes for my work.

I work with what I see in my daily life: my breakfast table, the skate parks I walk through every day, or the views and spaces around my studio in Cologne.

It all starts with observing the place where I am, for example the reflection of the light, the shadows and how they are projected on the wall that I see from the window of my studio.

These are themes that change and evolve with the times of day, the seasons and an infinite number of other variables that influence the development or expressive possibilities of the same work theme.

I see new or perhaps less details, there are elements of the painting that I can work with in one way or another and they are always in constant change; it is the light, the reflection on the floor or changes in the tonalities and reflections of the walls. It's all these simple, big details that you don't see at first glance.

It's a pictorial narrative of what I observe, and so I think it's a kind of extension of my being, of what I see, of what I inhabit, of what I observe, and it's a kind of self-portrait.

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### **\*What role do architecture and nature play in your motifs?**

Both go hand in hand as complementary elements to the themes I tell. They are not the subject, but play the role of backdrops.

As I am narrating the situation or the moment I am in, it is necessary to construct these scenarios.

It's a strategy that I know about working with angles, perspectives, the construction of spaces and depths, because I learned it at university.

I trained and worked as an architect. And I believe that the projection of spaces is a tool that I still use today to create spaces or situations in which my painting themes develop. On the other hand, nature will always be present in a complementary way, both as a strategy of gestural expression in painting and because it is part of the stories and scenarios that I tell.

**\*Your pictures have something concrete and at the same time something surreal.**

**Do you see it that way too?**

My way of rendering it has something dreamlike about it, something outside of reality. It is the abstraction of ourselves in this space or this reality.

For me, landscape and space are manifestations that can often be unreal, With painting, I move either in a space of narrative, anecdotes or a parallel imaginary.

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**\*What color technique do you use most often?**

I think I have a more or less fixed color palette that gradually, when there is a new canvas or theme, becomes more flexible with a touch of another new color, but it is also not very bold or daring.

I work with warm, pastel or pink skin tones as a basis for something contemplative but positive for the work in general, but at the same time in line with the line of work I have been doing for a long time. On that basis, I use 1 or 2 color families that are almost always the same.

The vibration of complementary colors is something that works best when there is more space available, and this is perhaps the most beautiful technique I use.

The theme of color has a big influence on my moods, and often they are inner or personal manifestations of our moods, as well as statements. I believe that working with color is a fundamental basis for creating moods in people, and in a way that is also something I do with my color palette.

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**\*What role does your Chilean origin play in your way of painting?**

That's a good question, and I think it's related to the previous question in a double sense.

I think growing up in the countryside and in the city, with a life characterized by summers at the beach, in the countryside and in the city, and in this country with beautiful and impressive landscapes has influenced me to appreciate nature and the changes in situations.

Thanks to this background, I have learned to appreciate both the natural and the urban environment, and from there comes the formal way of creating my own narrative, which comes from the observation or contemplation of our everyday spaces, a common and ordinary space.

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## **\*Which other painters are a point of reference for you?**

I would say that Paul Gauguin's work influenced me from an early age. His gestures and his use of color still impress me today. He is a classic reference for many painters, but I also believe that his subject matter has something in common with me, which is to observe and capture stories and narratives that are similar to me; an outsider in this exotic paradise, which in their case was Tahiti.

As for contemporary painters, I could say that I appreciate Peter Doig for his contemporary landscape motifs.

But my point of reference today is above all Japanese art of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, with artists such as Katsushika Hokusai, with his series of engravings or "floating" paintings. His work of simplification and graphic information is interesting and visually appealing, but I also want to transfer the graphic means he uses to reinforce narrative concepts into surrealist references in my work.

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**Sebastián Hermida** lives and works in Cologne and Mallorca

**2002-2007** Bachelor in Architecture, Universidad Finis Terrae, Santiago de Chile.

**2007-2008** Architect Title-Degree 2007-2008. Universidad Finis Terrae, Santiago CL.

**2010-2016** Private studies in Painting, Porcelain, and History of Art. with Nicole Tijoux, Francisca Valdivieso & Galeria Patricia Ready.

## **ausgewählte Ausstellungen: 2018-2024**

**100 für 100**, Nov. **2018**. Petersburger Raum für Kunst, Cologne. GE Group Exhibiton. - **KunstStation- Ehrenfeld**, April-May **2019**. Bunker K101, Cologne. GE Group Exhibiton. - **"Colors In the Outside"**, May-July **2019**. Galerie Daneben, Cologne. GE **Solo Show**. - **Winter group Exhibition**, Dec-Feb **2019-2020**. Gallery Verduyn, Kortrijk, Belgium. - **PANAm Kunstforum Emmerich**, August **2020**, Emmerich am Rhein. Germany. Group Exhibiton\_ Museum for Plakat & Kunst. - **"Big Soft Illusion"**, November **2020**, Kunstverein Are Avanti. Leipzig, GE. Group Show. - **KunstStation- Ehrenfeld**. Group Exhibition. July **2021**. Bunker K101, Cologne GE. - **KunstRoute- StageGallery**. Group Exhibition August **2021**. The Stage Gallery, Cologne GE. - **"Nous Noms"** Group Exhibition. Asociación de Artistas Islas Baleares, September **2022**, Plaza Paseo Del Born , Palma de Mallorca. Spain. - **"Nous Noms"** Group Exhibition. TastArt 6th Edition, November-December **2022**. - Museo de Porreres, Mallorca. Spain. - **KunstStation- Ehrenfeld**. Group Exhibition. May **2023**. Bunker K101, Cologne GE. - **"Transparent Orte"**. **Solo Show**. October **2023**. Ed Baima, Cologne GE. - **"Salon Rompone"**. Galerie Rompone. November

**2023\_** January 2024, Cologne GE. - **"Landscapes perspectives"**. Duo-  
**Show** with Thierry Goffart. February **2024** Galerie Plan -D,  
Düsseldorf GE.

**Intsllations, Urban Projects:**

**VideoFenster Cologne 2021.** [www.videofenster.net](http://www.videofenster.net) director and  
creator: Sebastian Hermida.

**Art Residences**

Pilotenküche Leipzig. Germany, Artist selected Round 45 Oct.-Dec.  
**2020**

**Comissioned Art Work:** 2017 - Currently : Paintings, Drawings,  
Ceramics, Graphic work & illustrations for Films & TV. in Nord  
Rhein-Westfalen . (National german productions and international  
productions.) in **Art department for films** 2017 - Currently :  
Scenic painter and Set Dresser

**Collaborative projects & Grants: -"Wallpaintings with Kids".**

GAG Immobilien project. Cologne Jul- Aug **2019**. Art-assistant for  
Krystiane Vajda. - **Ostheim-BuchHeim Street-Art Projekt mit Kindern**  
Rucksack Program Stadt Köln. Co-Artist with Krystiane Vajda.  
Cologne Jul **2021** -**"Not Alone 2.0"** performance from Maeshelle West-  
Davies, streaming from Bleach Gallery Halle to Videofenster  
Cologne GE

**2021 -Druckwerkstatt** Jungen Zentrum-Ostendorf. w Krystiane Vajda.  
Stadt-Köln Rucksackprogramm - Sommer 2021

-**Druckwerkstatt für Klange Des Lebens Festival** Ehrenfeld , Cologne  
Jun **2023** -**"NRW stipendium 2020."** Ministerium für Kultur und  
Wissenschaft, for Videofenster project.

-**"NRW stipendium 2021"** Ministerium für Kultur und Wissenschaft, for  
Landscape painting process.