

PRESS RELEASE

Zillman Art Museum - University of Maine

May 25, 2022

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High resolution digital images available upon request



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Admission to ZAM is FREE in
2022 thanks to Birchbrook

Zillman Art Museum (ZAM) announces Summer Exhibition

BANGOR – The Zillman Art Museum, located at 40 Harlow Street in downtown Bangor, has opened a new exhibition that will run through August 18, 2022. ZAM is open Tuesday-Saturday from 10 am - 5 pm and brings modern and contemporary art to the region, presenting approximately 21 original exhibitions each year. Admission to the Zillman Art Museum is free in 2022 thanks to the generosity of Birchbrook.

NICK SIDER: LIONS AND TIGERS AND NICK

May 20 - August 18, 2022

Nick Sider's paintings of lions, tigers and large-scale self-portraits are depicted in an astonishing hyper-realistic manner. Three of the NYC-based artist's works make their debut in the Zillman Art Museum's exhibition *Lions and Tigers and Nick*. While the level of detail achieved by Sider is remarkable in itself, his use of acrylic—a medium that is quick to dry and often considered as inflexible and unforgiving—further attests to the artist's skillful and unique process of layering paint. Lions and tigers have long been principal subjects for his work and he continues to be enthralled with portraying the majestic nature and spirit of these large cats. Up-close portraits of a lion and tiger, both created in 2022, reveal the intense stare and striking features of these powerful creatures.

A focal point of the exhibition is two large-scale self-portraits that depict the artist in 2016 and 2022. *Primal Self*, 2016 captures Sider, who is a self-taught artist, during a particularly difficult time. He was finding his way as a painter, navigating the challenges of creating art while living in NYC and ultimately feeling "beaten up by the art world." The recently completed self-portrait *Tamed Self*, 2022 documents a newfound contentment. This work reflects a more confident and grounded version of the artist, having achieved a degree of commercial success, notoriety, and a fully formed artistic practice. Identifying physical changes in the six-year span between these self-portraits is a subtly nuanced exercise. The artist admits that he contemplated the process of aging while creating the recent self-portrait. The passage of time is evident through several physical features—a slightly fuller face and more noticeable wrinkles on the forehead and around the eyes. By executing the self-portraits in the same large size and format, Sider has created the opportunity for comparison and close inspection for ZAM viewers.

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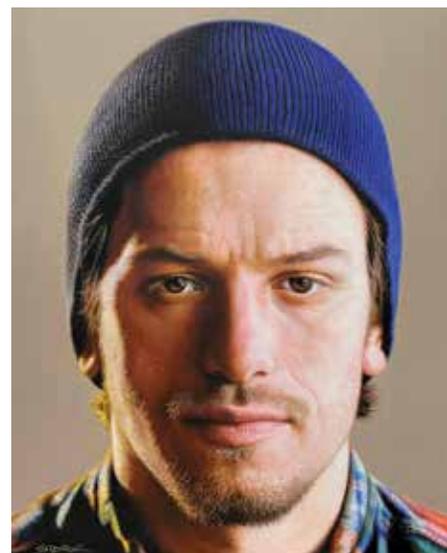


NICK SIDER (Canadian, born 1988)

Vridian Fixation, 2022

Acrylic on canvas

Both works: Courtesy of the artist



Primal Self, 2016

Acrylic on canvas