

JAMES ANTHONY BEARDEN: TECHNICAL AND AESTHETIC REVELATIONS



January 10 - February 25, 2020

New York Design Center

James Anthony Bearden:
Neo-Expressionist and Neo-Surrealist sculptor

In the two years after the artist's last solo exhibition – where the material reality of steel was evident in both its title and monochromatic appearance – Mr. Bearden sought to break free from pre-conceived judgment of his medium, as well as the persistent misnomers applied to his art.

While subtle color play has always existed in his previous works, the development in his coloring technique – from painted polychrome to dyed glass enamel – allowed for dramatic saturation and stunning complexity in his new palette, bringing heightened immediacy to his biomorphic and anthropomorphic imagery.

The artist had always challenged the gravitational reality of steel, but he has found new expressions towards verticality and delicacy, transcending material and elevating function. The open compositions, ranging from ornamental tracery to dynamic use of negative space, allow for the interplay of light and air, animating the environment with ever-changing viewing possibilities.

This exhibition took inspiration from the naturalist traditions and fantastical imagery of Early Netherlandish paintings, as well as the Gesamtkunstwerk philosophy of fin de siècle interiors. All pieces are presented in cohesive groups of varying numbers – a nod to modernist modular designs, showing their endless potential for variation, evolution, subtraction or addition; at once prêt à porter and haute couture.

As a leading gallery in modern design, Weinberg Modern has been a producer of rigorous scholarship and an advocate for an environmentally compassionate lifestyle. We are proud to present our second solo show with Mr.





