

GARDEN OF THE ZODIAC GALLERY, OLD OMAHA ASSOCIATION

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

PRESENTS

JEFF SEDREL

Opening Thursday, December 1, 2022 from 6 to 8pm

Exhibition continues through January 29, 2023

1042 Howard Street

Omaha, Nebraska

The Garden of the Zodiac Gallery announces its second exhibition of mixed media artist Jeff Sedrel. Color is the central focus of Sedrel's recent series of floral paintings, executed by infusing ink and brush painting with impressionist sensibilities.

As with his previous compositions drawing upon a range of familiar symbols, animal forms and consumer products, Sedrel aims here for an equilibrium between the inevitable metaphors and conventions of still life painting and his desire to communicate in the artistic language of present tense. Interested in the connection between Impressionism and the Industrial Age, Sedrel is also intrigued by parallels with the emergence of artificial intelligence technology as a method of producing art through algorithms and how, as the 21st century wears on, it might inform traditional studio practice.

The resulting botanical compositions are Sedrel's own invention. Inspired by the bouquets and floral sprays at work and home, he translates that beauty into vivid spatial arrangements of form and color. Working in a mix of media—ink, acrylics, marker—on either canvas or paper, Sedrel compresses space, filling it with an explosion of bright, direct gestures that speak to natural abundance and the pleasures of artmaking unfettered by standard iconography or didactic intent. "Current times can be outright overwhelming," said Sedrel, "and perhaps at the end of the day, I just wanted to paint flowers."

Jeff Sedrel was born in Des Moines, Iowa, and raised in Omaha, where he received his BA in Studio Art from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 2012. After college he moved to Richmond, Virginia, then to Los Angeles, and eventually back to Omaha again, participating in various art communities all the while. He was a 2017 Fellow at the Union for Contemporary Art under a collaborative multimedia project with Noah Sterba called *Slowed Soul*. Sedrel was nominated for two Omaha Entertainment and Arts Awards in 2020. His recent work has also been featured at Project Project, Landlock Gallery and the Michael Phipps Gallery, where he exhibited with Holly Kranker.

Jeff Sedrel opens on the evening of December 1, 2022 and runs through January 29, 2023 in the Garden of the Zodiac Gallery, 1042 Howard Street. The gallery is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from noon to 8:00pm and on Sundays from noon to 6:00pm. For further information, please contact 402.341.1877, email gardenofthezodiac@gmail.com, or visit the Garden of the Zodiac page on Facebook.