





# Adam Berg: Resonances

April 4 through June 3, 2022

Edward Cella Art+Architecture @ Thomas Lavin Showroom | Pacific Design Center

8687 Melrose Ave. Suite B310, West Hollywood, CA Monday through Friday 9 am to 5 pm

Adam Berg AGI 11 (Auto Generative Image Series), 2021 Oil on canvas 60 x 60 inches

(Los Angeles) **Edward Cella Gallery** proudly presents **Adam Berg**: **Resonances** an exhibition featuring a bold new series of paintings and related polished stainless-steel sculptures. Conjuring the speculative mapping of cosmological dimensions and simultaneously the invisible microscopic domains of the dynamic systems of life the dazzling round paintings each emit color like fields of energy. Created during the worldwide flux of past two years, the works are neither representational nor symbolic of any state of affairs in the world but are visually reminiscent of a multitude of worlds in various cosmic scales.

Building on the artist's dedicated practice investigating the interrelationships of art and science, Berg conceives of painting as a means of introducing concepts of scientific investigations into wider audiences and conversations. Encapsulating the essence of this new body of work, Berg entitles this project *Resonance* suggesting the expanded field of reverberations which he seeks to draw into his work. Incorporating mathematical, scientific, computational, and topological ideas – and specifically Sheaf theory which establishes connections between local and global properties of topological space.

Although created with only vigorous brushwork and the repetitive concentric strokes of Berg's brushes, the painting operates as lush plasmatic images of distant worlds or the rotating and entwining patterns constructed by the most complex of computational algorithms.

Each of the paintings within the system is titled AGI or Auto Generative Images which is the artist's playful restatement of the term Artificial General Intelligence or more commonly referred to as AI (Artificial Intelligence). For Berg each of the works is sentient in its creation. He states, "they command my attention to what they, as self-emergent agents, want to become as opposed to me as the intervening agent (i.e., painter) is telling them what I want them to become."

In a parallel to Surrealist automatism, the method of artmaking in which the artist suppresses conscious control over the making process, Berg considers each work as having *autopoiesis*, or the ability to create, maintain or renew itself which allow for each to establish its own visual agency. To Berg, "the painting reveals itself to me and to the viewer, and together we (artist and viewer) generate our meaning and connections which constitute a resonance with the painting."

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Reza Negarestani, the contemporary Iranian philosopher and writer, upon observing Berg's AGI paintings, has written that they are, "a navigation of the deep ends of the islands of perception and intelligence—alien or otherwise. In this navigation which always belongs to the paradigm of descent in the vein of the post-Copernican paradigm of cosmology, we soon find ourselves in the great fables of isolated islands where to be part of an island means to be part of a resonant field, to be able to hear the shape of the island by listening to the waves. And to be part of a resonant field means we are part of an ocean, i.e., the very system that carries the messages in bottles sub-rosa: We belong to that which is bottomless, that which gravitates us all towards a common end: to fall in the sky."

Despite recent events, Berg reconstitutes the artistic power of objects to seize our imaginations and rekindle our innate, childlike sense of wonderment of the cosmos. Along with his mirror like sculptures which perform as scientific devises not unlike telescopes or microscopes, his radiant paintings invite us to awaken our perceptions and look into them and ourselves at new horizons.

### PUBLIC EXHIBITION PROGRAMS

# Adam Berg *At Home* at the Thomas Lavin Showroom Friday, April 29 from 3 to 5 PM

You are invited to join Adam Berg and the Thomas Lavin team for an informal gathering to celebrate the installation of **Adam Berg**: **Resonances**. The artist will be on hand to welcome viewing of his newest body of works and offer his personal insights. Advanced registration is required, to do so please <u>register</u> here.

# Reza Negarestani, Edward Cella and Adam Berg: *In Conversation* Sunday, May 15 | 12 Noon (PST)

Join us for a live web-broadcast with philosopher Reza Negarestani from Connecticut; gallerist Edward Cella on location in Berlin, Germany; and artist and educator Adam Berg from Los Angeles for a discussion of Berg's newest body of paintings and sculptures entitled *Resonance*. Advance Zoom registration is required, to do so please <u>register here</u>.

#### ABOUT ADAM BERG

Born in Israel, Adam Berg attended Accademia de Belle Arti, Rome, Italy, and studied architecture, landscape architecture, and philosophy at the University of Toronto, Canada. He went on to complete a Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, and Doctoral degree in Philosophy from the University of Haifa, Israel. His work is currently on view in the exhibition *Material Imagination: Israeli Art from the Museum's Collection* at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art.

Berg has had solo exhibitions at Edward Cella Art & Architecture, Los Angeles, CA; Santa Monica Museum of Art, Santa Monica, CA; Museo Revoltella, Trieste, Italy; Museo Arte Plastica, Olona, Italy; Palazzo Medici Riccardi, Florence, Italy; Pio Monti Arte Contermporanea, Rome, REDCAT, Los Angeles, CA; Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Archipelago, Israel; Pino Casagrande Gallery, Rome, Italy; Genia Schreiber Art Gallery, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel; and Haifa Museum of Art, Haifa, Israel. Berg has had group exhibitions with MoCA Beijing, Beijing, China, King David Tower Museum, Jerusalem, Israel; Ludwig Museum Koblenz, Koblenz, Germany; Barnsdall Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; Track 16 Gallery, Santa Monica, CA; Whitechapel Gallery, London, England; and Art Museum of Athens, Athens, Greece.

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## ABOUT THE THOMAS LAVIN SHOWROOM

Thomas Lavin is a leader in bringing an international range of exclusive high-end home furnishings, fabrics, lighting, and accessories to Los Angeles. Founded in the year 2000 by Los Angeles Native Thomas Lavin. Over the years the Pacific Design Center showroom has grown to 19,000 square feet—including an additional 4,000 sq ft added in early 2019—which encompasses a stand-alone showroom for French heritage brand Liaigre. To better serve his clientele in Orange County, San Diego and the dessert communities, Lavin opened a showroom at the Laguna Design Center in 2014.

### ABOUT EDWARD CELLA ART & ARCHITECTURE

Edward Cella Art & Architecture is committed to supporting significant established, mid-career, and emerging artists, architects, and designers. Nurturing this hybridity, the gallery uniquely exhibits photography, painting, sculpture, architectural drawings, models, and design objects with an emphasis on the intersection of these disciplines. Edward Cella founded Edward Cella Art & Architecture in 2006, building on his background as an architectural historian with a decade of experience in art advisory and collection management and a passion for collecting architectural drawings and ephemera, as well as contemporary art and erotica. The gallery sustains a curatorial emphasis on discourses surrounding issues of cultural and conceptual significance and has represented historical and under-recognized estates and collections.

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