

**Carl Emil Jacobsen**

***Comb a Hairy Doughnut Flat***

August 13 – October 10, 2021

[O—Overgaden](#), Copenhagen

**With his grand-scale organic sculptures with coarse or grained surfaces in shades of burned pastel colors, Carl Emil Jacobsen (b. 1987, DK) embraces the heavy legacy of modernism in a way that is simultaneously affectionate and crushing. Lying scattered across the stone floor at O, as if they were body parts, oversized tools, or erotic objects of fetishism, his voluptuous sculptural bodies are highly alluring to multiple senses, including the eye.**

This ambiguous mode of expression constitutes a balancing nerve in Danish artist Carl Emil Jacobsen's work, and with *Comb a Hairy Doughnut Flat* – the artist's first institutional solo exhibition – the exhibition space is turned into a workshop and a piece of nature. With the process as its own goal and an almost ritualistic attention on the breakdown of materials and the physical shaping, Carl Emil Jacobsen's abstract sculptures are oozing an insistent, sensuous appeal.

*Comb a Hairy Doughnut Flat* – that borrows its title from a mathematical theory about the geometry and spatial dynamics of curved surfaces – present a new series of pigment-painted sculptures made in fiber concrete and acrylic as well as a distinctive space displaying sketches and models. The exhibition is built up as a transitory scenography, which unfolds in three different phases during the exhibition period. Based on the working titles *First Impression*, *Odd Couple* and *On the Other Side* Jacobsen rearranges the works in order to examine the process as a material and the relational changeability of the works. Can a gaze at an artwork be a gaze upon its creation and process?

With his unique production of pigments, utilizing local stone and mineral materials, Jacobsen's practice is literally connected to the landscapes surrounding him. Nature's regeneration processes and a cyclic feeling of organic transformations is constantly present in the sculptural expression. Traces of modernist abstraction are drawn through his sculptural language, but aside from this language, another voice intrudes. You could call it a "nature language" or a "body language"; a timeless underlining of how the artificial and the natural are not opposites. The body and the eyes are mutually dependent in their encounters with art as well as nature.

**[Carl Emil Jacobsen](#)** (b. 1987, DK) holds a MA in Industrial Design from Design School Kolding (2012) and works in the intersection between art and design. His works have been exhibited at The Curio, Chart Art Fair, the Spring Exhibition at Kunsthal Charlottenborg, Patrick Parrish Gallery, New York, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Paris, Piscine, Arhus and The Round Tower, Copenhagen, among other places. In 2018 he participated in the prestigious design exhibition MINDCRAFT 18 in Milan and in 2020 he was selected for the Danish Arts Foundations two-year career development program 'The Young Artistic Elite'.