

PRESS RELEASE

SHAWN MAXIMO – DEEPPRECESSION

12. 9. – 15. 9. 2019

art berlin 2019, Flughafen Tempelhof, Berlin

For art berlin 2019, Roehrs & Boetsch presents a solo-presentation of emerging artist Shawn Maximo (1975, Canada) with a selection of new works compiled from his recent solo exhibition at the gallery.

With 'Deeprecession (Isolationism and other Myths)', Shawn Maximo imagines a community living underground in an unspecified location with no indication of an 'outside' space.

The conflation of 'deep' and 'recession' is a literal expression for the theme of receding deep into mountainous caves and forming a functioning society. By thinking through the example of an isolated community living underground, Maximo carries the idea of isolation – such as national isolation and its benefits as increasingly advocated by some politicians and conspiracy theorists – ad absurdum and unmasks it as a myth.

'Deeprecession' also functions as a sort of anagram for 'depression' indicating economic hardship or emotional suffering. Pointing out the representation of a society where the promise of entrepreneurship is never what it seems. Given the rules of advanced capitalism, there must always be an imbalance to support any economic growth.

Shawn Maximo (1975, Canada) produces images, sculptures, animations, furniture, theatrical sets, and installations. In his artistic practice, Maximo often creates architectural dioramas and spatial hybrids, as a way to process contemporary culture and envision possible futures.

Posing 'what if' scenarios, the artist composes highly detailed and considered designs of environments that invite the viewer to think about topics ranging from the future of work, to the relationships between robots and humans, and new lifestyle scenarios. Maximo's work presents a growing collection of use cases, often politically tinged, for a future that might not lie all that far ahead.

Maximo's works have been exhibited internationally in museums and fairs including ZKM Karlsruhe, Kunsthalle Wien, Vitra Design Museum Weil am Rhein, Berlin Biennale, Musee d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, MoMA P.S.1 and Perez Art Museum Miami.

[Shawn Maximo in interview >](#)

ROEHRS & BOETSCH

Roehrs & Boetsch is a Zurich gallery for contemporary art. Rapid technological progress and increasing digitalisation have not only had a major impact on contemporary society as a whole, but have also influenced the arts by greatly expanding the variety of media available and introducing new topics. Given the shifting landscape of the art world in recent years, Roehrs & Boetsch is the first and to date only art gallery in Switzerland to devote its programme to exploring digitalisation and its implications for society. By working very closely with emerging as well as established artists, Roehrs & Boetsch's exhibitions explore and critically reflect the relationship between contemporary culture, digitalisation and art in a range of media and techniques. Furthermore, as an art gallery, Roehrs & Boetsch takes great interest in actively discussing and developing new forms of exhibiting artworks where conventional methods have failed. The virtual reality platform CUBE is a prime example of this. www.roehrsboetsch.com

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#shawnmaximo #deeprecession
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For further information on the exhibition and press materials, please contact Nina Röhrs at the gallery (press@roehrsboetsch.com, T +41 43 539 56 74).