

Artspace

PICKS

10 of the Best Artworks on View in Chelsea Right Now

By Andrew M. Goldstein
Sept. 14, 2016

JONAS WOOD
Spiritual Warrior (2016)
Anton Kern



The tradition of painters portraying their fellow artists at work is old and distinguished one, encompassing John Singer Sargent's sun-dappled view of Claude Monet painting au plein air and Gauguin's rendition of van Gogh turbulently laying down a sunflower. In Jonas Wood's new show at Anton Kern, he joins this lineage with a mammoth view inside the studio of his friend, fellow basketball superman, and sometime collaborator Mark Grotjahn.

Built up from tiny Impressionistic dashes—which cheer up Grotjahn's own intense, "Spiritual Warrior"-worthy brushwork—and angled in Wood's precisely awkward signature style, it's anchored by the contrast between the market star's athletic physique and his spooky, faraway stare.