

Debutantes - Art Collector writers present four artists who are stepping onto the stage with their first solo exhibitions.

Kate Britton, 'Mason Kimber', *Art Collector*, Issue 71 pp108-109

**50** THINGS COLLECTORS  
NEED TO KNOW 2015  
DEBUTANTES

# 16.

## Mason Kimber

Since completing his masters in painting at the National Art School in 2013, Perth-born, Sydney-based **Mason Kimber** has been steadily building a reputation as a painter on the rise. In 2014 alone Kimber staged a solo show at Sydney artist run initiative Archive\_Space; showed in four group shows, two in Rome as a result of a British Council residency; was awarded a year-long residency at Parramatta Artist Studios for 2015; and placed as a finalist in the Brett Whiteley Travelling Art Scholarship, the Macquarie Group Emerging Artist Prize and the Substation Contemporary Art Prize.

These achievements have not gone unnoticed. 2015 will see Kimber have his first commercial solo show at Galerie pompom in Chippendale, Sydney, the start of a longer-term partnership. "My relationship with the gallery began with my exhibition *Screen Memory* in 2013 at MOP Projects [pompom's artist-run sister gallery]," Kimber recounts. "The success of that show led to the opportunity of being represented." The 2015 show will continue his exploration of architecture and form, something that appears throughout his recent work and is characterised by a bright palette, energetic lines and expressionistic flourishes, often applied to the built environment.

"The show is based around the theme of architectural memory," Kimber says. "This stems from a fascination with Italian fresco painting [developed] during my studio residency at the British School at Rome in mid-2014. Since then I've been experimenting with traditional lime plaster surfaces combined with oil-based painterly abstraction." For Kimber, representation at pompom is a big step forward and not merely for the potential fiscal rewards. "The main benefit of showing commercially is the ongoing support, energy and expertise of the gallery - something highly beneficial when you're an emerging artist," he says. "Sales are important of course, but my focus is on building a long-term career and its great to have help from people who believe in you."

*Kate Britton*

Mason Kimber will show with Sydney's Galerie pompom from 1 to 26 April 2015.

### 16. Mason Kimber

This page:

Mason Kimber, *Persian Drift*, 2014.  
Oil on canvas, 46 x 56cm.

Opposite page:

Mason Kimber, *Still 102*, 2014.  
Oil on canvas, 120 x 120cm.

COURTESY: THE ARTIST AND GALERIE  
POMPOM, SYDNEY

