

## Art Basel.STATEMENTS



KERN SAMUEL "Between two (a)isles", 2024



EIN MATERIAL MUSS  
BESCHÄDIGT WERDEN, UM SICH  
ZU VERÄNDERN

Kern Samuel sees painting as a means of investigating both material and labor. His canvases are sewn and quilted, with folds and elements of embroidery. His interventions into historic panel painting yield compositions that might seem vaguely reminiscent of modernist abstract works but are based on different parameters. Samuel sees destruction as latent in the work itself: material must be damaged to be changed. It's a matter of de and reconstruction. Language, when included in Samuel's works, is mediated through the grid of the quilt, subverting a didactic reading and lending the verbal a visual dimension. His work titles often reference memory, the unconscious, and spirituality: all realms where language necessarily remains imprecise. Samuel was born in Trinidad in 1990 and studied at Cooper Union and Yale