

# FRED LEVINE



In the End the Bush Burns Down V, 2023 – 2025, Oil on canvas, 115 x 140 cm

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*Feral Within*  
Raffaël Bader

Fred Levine Gallery, Bruton  
Exhibition Dates: 13 September until November 1  
Exhibition Opening: September 13, 2-4pm

Fred Levine Gallery is excited to announce a first solo exhibition with Leipzig-based painter Raffaël Bader. Following recent announcement of Fred Levine's representation of the artist and his first solo exhibition with the gallery, Bader brings together new work that explore what he explains as a search for a hidden yet an always present, inner wilderness.

Bader's paintings are grounded in a deeply personal inquiry: the search for a world that lies beneath the highly developed rational mind- a space of untamed potential, raw emotion, and archaic freedom. Working with natural phenomena that are both within us and around us, his art becomes a site for tracing connections between the feral self and the living landscape.

"It's a questioning," Bader reflects, "but it's also an act of doing something inherently abstract- as painting always is, to sense the wild that lies within me, I want the nature of painting itself to remain visible in the work. The paint represents itself, while also pointing beyond itself. Both perspectives are real, both are legitimate."

The exhibition features works such as *Lavender at the Edge of the World*, a meditation on resilience and beauty in unexpected places. Here, beauty is not merely ornamental; it's an emergent force at the threshold between safety and the abyss. In the work titled, *In the End the Bush Burns Down V*, fire is a symbol of transformation - a consuming, nonjudgmental energy that destroys to prepare the ground for something new.

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Across these works, Bader invites viewers to consider the landscapes we carry within us: fertile, chaotic, and vivid inner worlds shaped by emotion, memory, and nature itself. His compositions oscillate between stillness and movement, figuration and abstraction, evoking forests, oceans, mountains, and the shifting light of imagined places.

"We all carry an inner garden, an inner landscape," Bader says. "It's brutal and beautiful at once. The wilderness is there- in us, in every person, in every place"

## About Raffael Bader

Leipzig-based visual artist, Raffael Bader, graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts, Leipzig, Germany, in 2019. In 2020 he began exhibiting internationally, including in Switzerland and the USA. In 2020 he received the "Denkzeit" grant from the Cultural Foundation of the Free State of Saxony, and in 2021 he received a work scholarship from the Stiftung Kunstfonds, Bonn.

Selected recent solo exhibitions include, Travers Heights Right to the Edges, Yiri Arts, Taipei, (2025), Luminous Floating, Enari Gallery, Amsterdam (2024), Enigmatic Stream, Galerie Philipp Anders, Leipzig, (2024), T-10 Project, Alzueta Gallery, Barcelona (2024). Recent selected group exhibitions include, Landscape of Time and Memory, Fred Levine, Bruton (2025), The Metamorphosis, Yiri Arts, Taipei, (2024), Upland, Rhodes, London (2024), The Landscape, Reimagined, BEERS LONDON at Saatchi Gallery, London (2024), antidote, Informality, London, UK (2024). Bader works are held in private collections worldwide, collections include Yusaku Maezawa, CAF Tokyo and Staatliche Kunstsammlung Dresden.

## About Fred Levine

Fred Levine is a contemporary art gallery based in Bruton, Somerset in the UK.

The gallery was founded in 2019 under its former name Informality in Oxfordshire and had occupied a permanent premise until 2022, further extending its programme in London at Cromwell Place until 2024. Fred Levine hosts a diverse exhibition programme both nationally and internationally and has exhibited works by some of the most celebrated contemporary artists including, Kapwani Kiwanga, Martine Poppe, Hannah Brown, Fernando Casasempere and Francesca Mollett.

Its exhibitions have been covered in FAD Magazine, Clot Magazine, Ocula Magazine, Hole & Corner, Artnet, FT How to Spend It, Aesthetica, and Artforum.

For press enquiries and high-resolution images, please contact:

Press Contact: Fred or Zee

Email: [Frederick@fredlevine.co.uk](mailto:Frederick@fredlevine.co.uk), [Zee@fredlevine.co.uk](mailto:Zee@fredlevine.co.uk)

Phone: 07752 425 341