

MENU



ART

Stephane Joannes

13 Apr — 13 May 2018 at the Massey Klein Gallery in New York,
United States

10 APRIL 2018



Stephane Joannes. Courtesy of Massey Klein Gallery

Joannes' collection, Tankers, features large horizontal paintings of cargo ships that border on abstraction. Seemingly crude and industrial, Joannes portrays the tankers with poetic sentiment. The man-made ships break through the tranquil setting of the surrounding air and sea. Time is suspended as the ships effortlessly roam the horizon. The tankers are always seen from the side, a compositional choice that not only emphasizes their sheer power and size but also transforms them into a symbol, almost hieroglyphic in nature.

The paintings display highly detailed, giant sea vessels. The air and water seem vast and are often blocked off with a single, bold color. His ships, on the other hand, are incredibly detailed with each drip of rust and weathering carefully articulated. These orange and brown drops reveal not only the ship's past but also the painting's history: they are visible evidence of the painter's brushstrokes and

artistic process. The busy, overlapping vertical streaks provide an interesting contrast to the otherwise clean, precise lines the artist uses.

Born in 1975 in Besançon, France, Stephane Joannes studied at L'Ecole Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs in Strasbourg, France. His large oil on canvas paintings depict solitary cargo ships surrounded by the vast sky and water. The traditional subjects are made contemporary by Joannes' clean lines, bold delineations of space and hints of abstraction.



Massey Klein Gallery

Massey Klein, a contemporary art gallery located in the Lower East Side of NYC, specializes in figurative painting, contemporary sculpture, and mixed media design. The gallery supports both local and international mid-career and emerging artists.

[Gallery profile](#)

Location

New York, United States