

FOCUS
ART FAIR

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MOLLBRINKS KONST

ALEXANDER KLINGSPOR

FOCUS ART FAIR, NEW YORK 2024

Hybrid Speciations | Urban Landscapes

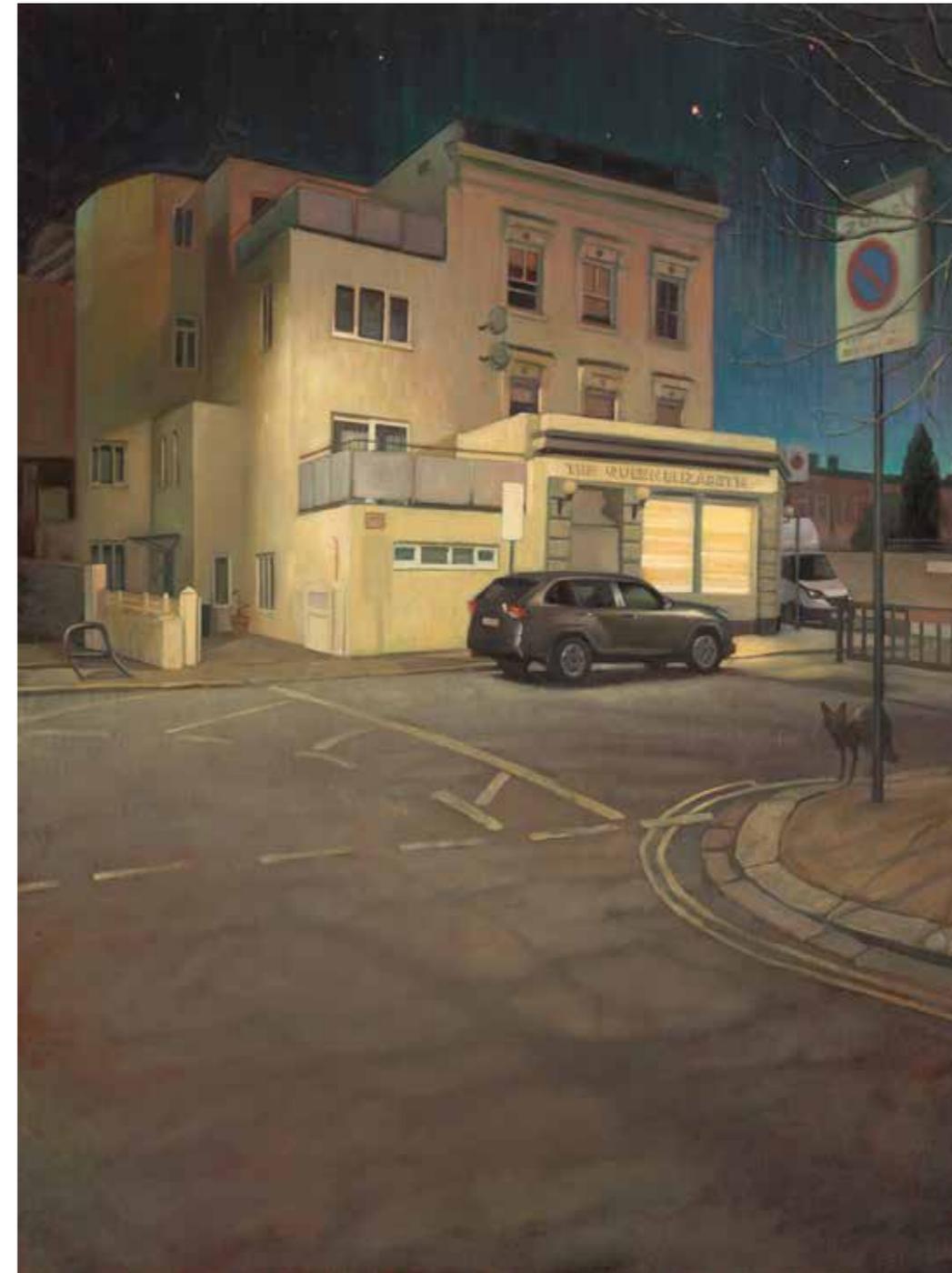
Hybrid Speciations I Urban Landscapes

MY MOST RECENT PAINTINGS are an extension of my sculpture series and focus on how new cultures and narratives are born through the urban environments we create. To live in a city is to constantly navigate geometry in the form of buildings, vehicles, street signs, manhole cover lids, and so on. How does this affect us? Does it change our way of thinking? Do we eventually merge with the city? How does it affect our relationship with the natural world? And how does the natural world interact with the urban environment?

— Alexander Klingspor



Broome Street
Oil on canvas, mounted on board
36x25 cm



The Queen Elizabeth, Fulham
Oil on canvas
80x60 cm



Cluster I
Pigment print on paper, mounted on
aluminum covered with liquid gloss
80x60 cm
Editon: 15

Alexander Klingspor

ALEXANDER KLINGSPOR was born in Stockholm in 1977. He started his education studying under Swedish artist and illustrator Michael Boston. At age 22, Klingspor moved to Kansas City, Missouri, to apprentice under the renowned American illustrators and painters, father and son Mark English and John English. Upon returning to Stockholm, he joined the workshop of Magnus Bratt, a copyist for Sweden's National Museum specializing in sixteenth-century oil painting. Later on, Klingspor studied structural anatomy with sculptors Chris Raccioppi, Paul Oestreicher, and Frank Procu at the Art Students League in New York.

BETWEEN 2008 AND 2019, Klingspor lived in New York City, where he focused on large-scale, multifigurative oil paintings addressing questions of consumption, isolation, and imagination. With gallery representation in New York, Stockholm, and London, he maintained studios in New York's Union Square and Stockholm's Royal Academy and his work was exhibited at Christie's Stockholm, the LA Art Show, the Miami Art Fair, and Sweden's Waldemasudde and VIDA museums, as well as numerous international galleries.

AMONG KLINGSPOR'S commissioned projects were paintings for foundations helmed by Prince Carl Philip and Princess Sofia of Sweden and Prince Albert II of Monaco, the latter benefitting global environmental sustainability. In 2018, Klingspor also collaborated with novelist Sir Salman Rushdie and composer Ittai Shapira on "The Midnight's Children Project," a visual and musical interpretation of Rushdie's award-winning novel exploring the use of magical realism to make sense of cultural conflict. The musical score was performed by the BBC National Orchestra of Wales and the project was an official selection at numerous film festivals, including the Los Angeles Independent Film Festival.

BEGINNING IN 2020, Klingspor expanded to bronze sculpture, casting his work at the acclaimed Perseo Foundry in Switzerland. Early pieces were shown at the London Art Fair in 2022, with the largest on display from October 2023 to October 2024 in New York's Union Square Park. Notable collectors of Klingspor's work include Sir Salman Rushdie, Iris Cantor, Whoopi Goldberg, and Stellan Skarsgård.



” MY WORK EXPLORES

how our past shapes our future through some of our most human traits, such as our unyielding desire to indulge and consume, our innate attractions to myths and legends, and our relentless quest for divine power and control.

— Alexander Klingspor

N.Y.C. Legend

STORIES ARE THE VERY backbone of human civilization. Across time, myths and legends give shape to our shared consciousness through sculptures, paintings, and architecture. They allow us to place ourselves in a greater context alongside other creatures who often take on deeply symbolic roles.

ENTER THE ALLIGATOR. With its armor of scales and ability to regrow limbs, it is a symbol for survival across many ancient mythologies. Yet its story also has a home in modern New York, where what started in the late 1920s as a practice of importing baby alligators from Louisiana and Florida quickly transformed into tales of rogue underground monsters that have spanned the rise and fall of stock markets, neighborhoods, and culture shifts from the Beats to hip hop.

THE METAPHOR IS NOT SURPRISING: alligators, like New Yorkers, are built to survive in the extreme. In this century alone, New Yorkers have lived through terrorist attacks, financial crashes, blackouts, and a pandemic. When other cities have depopulated, New Yorkers have stayed and thrived, their skin thick and their senses attuned as they move between the subway and the sidewalk.

DRAWING ON THE CENTURY-OLD urban legend of New York sewer alligators, N.Y.C. Legend puts a modern spin on the process by which myth becomes art with a tribute to the greatest city in the world. It is also a testament to our timeless drive to find icons in nature, and to the bridge that myth builds between the ancient and modern that still echoes today.



Multiple
N.Y.C. LEGEND

Medium: Bronze, on black stone
Signed and numbered edition of 49. + 3 Épreuve d'artiste (E.A.)
Foundry: Perseo SA, Fonderie d'art, Mendrisio, Switzerland
Editor: Mollbrinks, Uppsala & Kungshamn, Sweden
Diameter 27 cm, height incl stone base 40 cm. Stone base 20x20x8 cm
Signed and numbered



NYC Legend Monumental in Union Square, New York

Photo: Jane Kratochvil



” **ALEXANDER KLINGSPOR’S STRIKING**

bronze sculpture, N.Y.C. Legend, joins the impressive collection of iconic public sculptures proudly on display throughout New York City. Its placement in Union Square, one of Manhattan’s most prominent and bustling locations, for a period of eight months allows for widespread and meaningful engagement with the public. We take great pride in showcasing Klingspor’s masterpiece and are hopeful for its permanent installation following the exhibition period.

— **Joseph Douek**
NYC PLANNING COMMISSIONER

Monumental N.Y.C. LEGEND

MEDIUM: Bronze cast sculpture and bronze base, internal steel beam support

EDITION: 3

DIMENSIONS: H225 cm x W150 cm x D150 cm

SCULPTURE WEIGHT: ca 600 kg

BASE WEIGHT: ca 600 kg

TOTAL WEIGHT: ca 1200 kg

EDITOR: Mollbrinks, Uppsala & Kungshamn, Sweden Signed and numbered

Currently on display from October 2023 to October 2024 in New York’s Union Square Park



N.Y.C. LEGEND
official website



Film about the creation
of N.Y.C. LEGEND



IN THE SCIENTIFIC WORLD, Hybrid Speciation is the term used to describe two species merging to form a new species. This phenomenon is the founding idea for my first bronze sculpture. After spending a decade in New York City, I felt I was becoming a part of the place; I started to appreciate the rats in Chinatown, the garbage on the streets of Union Square, and the numbers of odd smells that drift through the streets of Manhattan. My sense of belonging to the city became a sensation of merging with the urban environment I inhabited. Globally, more and more people live in cities, fusing with the human made metropolises. The age we live in is often defined as the period of Anthropocene – the time during which human activities have impacted the environment enough to constitute a distinct geological change.

THE SCULPTURE I HAVE CREATED is intended to depict a human cranium merged with the streets of New York City. It also pays homage to the legend of the alligator in the New York sewers. Rumours and reports of reptiles in the city started as early as in the 1930's and confirmed cases have been reported as late as 2023 by the New York Times. These alligators were brought to NYC by humans, just as everything else that one can find in the city. As we continue to merge with our cities and the cities continue to shape us, a form of Hybrid Speciation is taking place and a new human creature is evolving – the urban species in the age of Athropocene.

— Alexander Klingspor



Hybrid Speciation I – New York City

Medium: Bronze, on black stone

Edition: 12. + Épreuve d'artiste (E.A.) and 1 Artist proof (AP)

Editor: Mollbrinks, Uppsala & Kungshamn, Sweden

DIMENSIONS 24,5x13x16 cm. excl. base

Signed and numbered

Foundry: Perseo SA, Fonderie d'art, Mendrisio, Switzerland



HYBRID SPECIATION —

The hybridization between two or more distinct lineages that contributes to the origin of a new species

— Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Biology



Hybrid Speciation II – London
Medium: Bronze on black stone
Edition: 12. + 3 Épreuve d'artiste (E.A.)
DIMENSIONS 30x20x25 cm excl. base
Signed and numbered
Foundry Perseo SA, Fonderie d'art, Mendrisio, Switzerland
In addition to the edition also 3 monumental sizes. (currently not casted)



SoHo Nights
Oil on canvas
76x114 cm



Blueprint II

Gouache, colored pencil and oil on paper
40x122 cm

Mollbrinks

MOLLBRINKS WAS ESTABLISHED in 1957 by Lars Mollbrink and has continuously operated as a family owned business. Today, the gallery is run by Lars Mollbrink's son and grandson, Jan Mollbrink and Johan Hauffman. Mollbrinks has two galleries in Sweden, with the flagship in the academic town of Uppsala and the other location in the southern town of Kungshamn on the Swedish west coast.

THE GALLERY EXHIBITS a wide range of modern masters of the 20th century as well as 19th century art but specializes in three artists of the two eras: Anders Zorn, Salvador Dalí, and Marc Chagall.

IN MORE RECENT YEARS, Mollbrinks has increased its focus on international contemporary artists with an emphasis on international art fairs and public sculpture exhibitions.

MOLLBRINKS PARTICIPATES regularly in International art fairs such as the London Art Fair and Swedish high-status fairs such as GRAND Antiques, Art & Design at Liljevalchs Konsthall, and Antikmässan arranged by Stockholmsmässan.



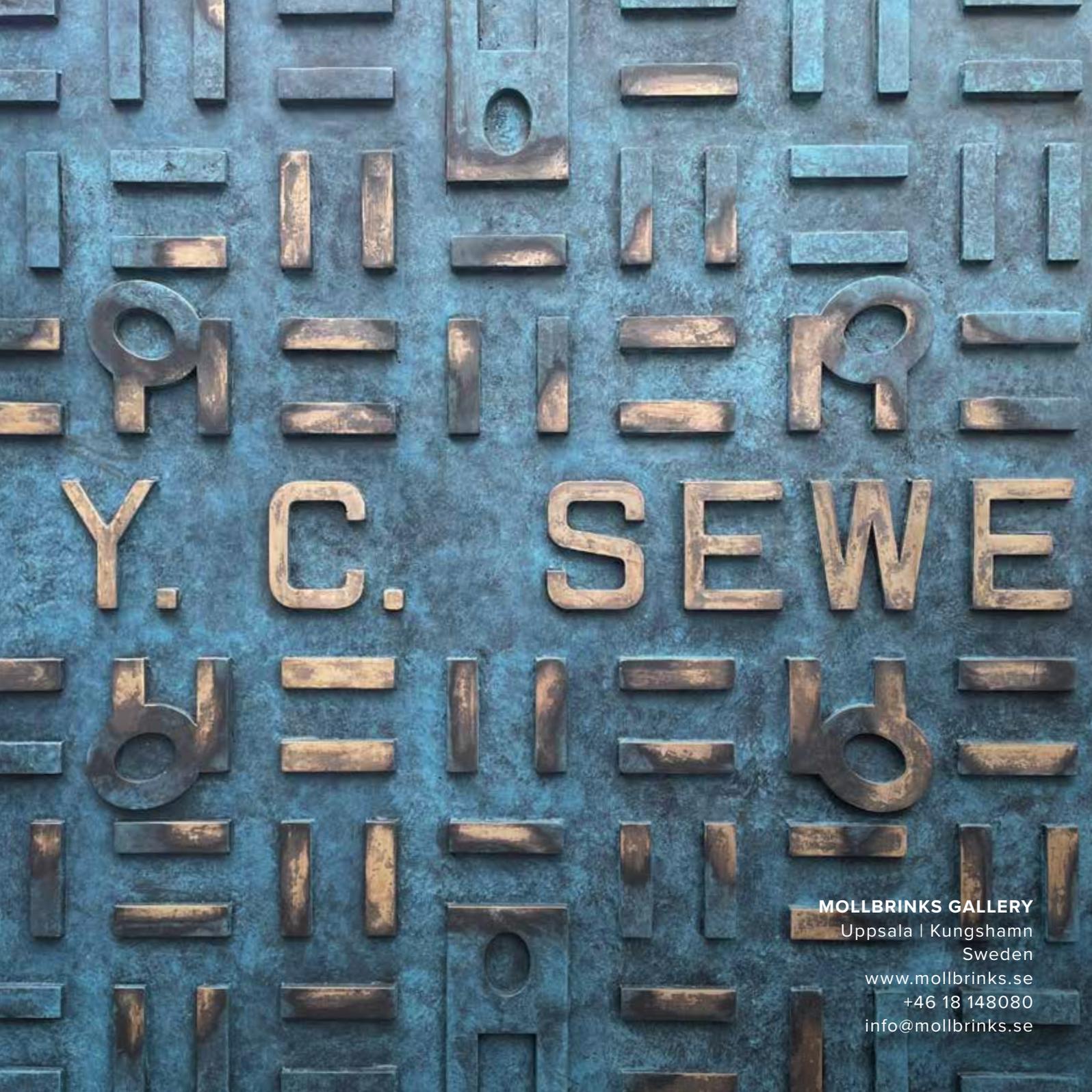
FOCUS Art Fair

NEW YORK 2024

Mollbrinks stand no. 2–9

Alexander Klingspor

1. **SoHo Nights**, oil on canvas, 76x114 cm, signed
2. **The Queen Elizabeth, Fulham**, oil on canvas, 80x60 cm, signed
3. **Passage**, oil on canvas, 85x120 cm, signed
4. **Broome Street**, oil on canvas mounted on board, 36x25 cm, signed
5. **Launderette**, oil on canvas, 80x60 cm, signed
6. **Blueprint I**, Gouache, colored pencil and oil on paper, 40x122 cm, signed
7. **Blueprint II**, Gouache, colored pencil and oil on paper, 40x122 cm, signed
8. **Blueprint III**, Gouache, colored pencil and oil on paper, 23x71 cm, signed
9. **Blueprint IIII**, Gouache, colored pencil and oil on paper, 23x71 cm, signed
10. **Cluster I**, Pigment print on paper, mounted on aluminum covered with liquid gloss. 80x60 cm. Edition: 15, signed and numbered verso
11. **The Queen Elizabeth, Fulham**, Pigment print, 70x53 cm. Edition: 12, signed and numbered
12. **SoHo Nights**, Pigment print, 60x90 cm. Edition: 12, signed and numbered
13. **Reflections**, Pigment print, 70x53 cm. Edition: 10, signed and numbered
14. **Hybrid Speciation I – New York City**, Bronze, 24,5x13x16 cm excl. base, Edition: 12
15. **Hybrid Speciation II – London**, Bronze, 30x20x25 cm excl. base, Edition: 12
16. **N.Y.C. LEGEND**, Bronze, diameter 27 cm, height incl stone base 40 cm, Edition 49
17. **N.Y.C. LEGEND**, Monumental, bronze, 225x150x150 cm, Edition 3. Currently on display in New York's Union Square Park.



Y. C. SEWE

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