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Devendra Banhart: I Left My Noodle on Ramen Street Drawings and Paintings

By Beck, Diego Cortez, Adam Green



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As eclectic, whimsical, and esoteric as his music, this collection of drawings, paintings, and mixed media pieces by Devendra Banhart confirms his status as one of today's most imaginative and accomplished artists. With a growing reputation as a visual artist, indie-rock star Devendra Banhart moves as effortlessly between genres as he does between musical instruments. In fact, Banhart trained as a visual artist before making a name in the music world. He draws daily and creates the illustrations for his albums, and this book reveals that his visual creations are as sophisticated as his music, and worthy of attention. Banhart draws inspiration from artists such as Henry Darger, Paul Klee, and Cy Twombly, but his work clearly reflects a 21st century aesthetic that is at once self-effacing and sharp-witted. Featuring a cross-section of his best work from the last decade, this collection is presented as a kind of "idea book"—including Banhart's own commentary and musings as well as photographs and other ephemera, an essay by renowned art dealer Jeffrey Deitch, and an interview with curator Diego Cortez. The result is a multi-dimensional portrait of a talented artist and an exciting glimpse into his creative process.



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Editorial Review

Review

“Banhart’s sense of humor seems to have remained intact . . . [He has released] the absurdly titled collection of drawings, paintings and mixed media work, *I Left My Noodle On Ramen Street*.”

?*Stereogum*

“The Venezuelan-American singer/songwriter with eight albums under his belt pieces together his drawings, paintings, photos from the past 10 years.”

?*Cool Hunting*

“[*I Left My Noodle on Ramen Street*] is a book that chronicles his evolution as an artist, from early experiments in film to drawings chock full of meticulous attention and subtle perfection, but it also reads like a family photo album.”

?VMAN

“Assembles works from throughout the timeline of Banhart’s visual output . . . alongside Banhart’s own commentary and essays by, and conversations with, a few of his famous friends, including Beck, Jeffrey Deitch and the musician and artist Adam Green.”

?*T Magazine blog, The New York Times*

“Cohesive in its own right, *I Left My Noodle on Ramen Street* asserts Banhart’s dedication to an interdisciplinary way of working, an approach that spans across, and often intersects with, numerous disciplines.”

—*Salon*

“Accompanied by an essay by Jeffrey Dietch—who refers to him as “one of the most engaging artists and musicians of his generation”—and by a surreal conversation with fellow musician and longtime friend Adam

Green, the catalogue delves deep into the whimsical workings of Banhart's mind often expressed in his music."

—*Hyperallergic*

"Beautiful, hilarious, and moving."

?*GQ*

"*I Left My Noodle on Ramen Street* . . . collects drawings, paintings, and mixed media from the last decade."

?*Pitchfork*

About the Author

DEVENDRA BANHART is a Venezuelan-American singer-songwriter and visual artist. He studied at the San Francisco Art Institute before pursuing a career in music. He has exhibited at a number of solo and group shows worldwide. He lives in New York.

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