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Holy Ground

Sam Branton

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**Goldsmiths**  
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## Holy Ground

Sam Branton

Sam Branton's paintings are imagined stories that emerge from a decadent mind. His images feature unlikely correspondences between flora, fauna, and decorative objects. The paintings have a sickly and fleshy quality reminiscent of *Les Fleurs du mal*. Creatures frolic in a fantastical world, and, as for Baudelaire, nature serves as an imaginative stage: rarely benevolent, sometimes threatening. Branton's subjects appear to grapple with their place within an unnatural landscape, negotiating the surreal surroundings in which they find themselves.

Alice Condé and Jessica Gossling, June 2021



*Still Life with Sea Slugs*, oil on canvas, 2021, © Sam Branton



*Monkey with Large Vessel*, oil on canvas, 2019, © Sam Branton



*Monkey, Pufferfish, and Peaches*, oil on canvas, 2019, © Sam Branton



*Swan, Squid, and Lemons*, oil on canvas, 2019, © Sam Branton



*Bird with Miniature*, oil on canvas, 2020, © Sam Branton



*Hound with Tapestry*, oil on canvas, 2020, © Sam Branton