

# Jean-Baptiste Bernadet *Vetiver (Shanghai)*

Jan 15 — Mar 7, 2026 | Shanghai

Almine Rech Shanghai is pleased to present *Vetiver (Shanghai)*, Jean-Baptiste Bernadet's eighth solo exhibition with the gallery, on view from January 15 to March 7, 2026.

Jean-Baptiste Bernadet's paintings are often discussed in phenomenological terms, particularly through an equivalence with clouds. Like clouds, they sustain an equivocal relationship to abstraction, representation, and interiority. Blending the remnants of late-modernism with a tinge of Baroque theatricality, while feeding a postmodernist sensibility with the pixelated residues of Impressionism, his paintings appear as compound aggregates. The subtle balance of Bernadet's all-over compositions rests on unresolved tensions with every part equal, yet equally distinct.

In *Vetiver (Shanghai)*, the painter's cloud-like formations take on a newly latent form akin to colored fumes. Diffused patches of pyrotechnic yellows burst through the canvas like smoke flowers in the midst of an auspicious firework. In the meantime, darker shades of blue, purple, orange, and green linger, as if searching for a place to settle. From one canvas to the next, this series of *Vetiver* carries the observer through vaporous movements like successive stages of an endless process of evaporation. What lies behind Bernadet's artificial sfumato remains unclear, hidden behind an evanescent curtain of smoke that gets in your eyes—the kind of haze that makes lovers go blind.

— Emile Rubino