

2023 Unit London Artist Programme

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January

1 - 27 January



Ground Floor

Stacey Gillian Abe | Shrublet of old Ayibu

Lower Ground Floor

Stephen Wong | Dream Travel

Stacey Gilian Abe

Shrublet of old Ayibu

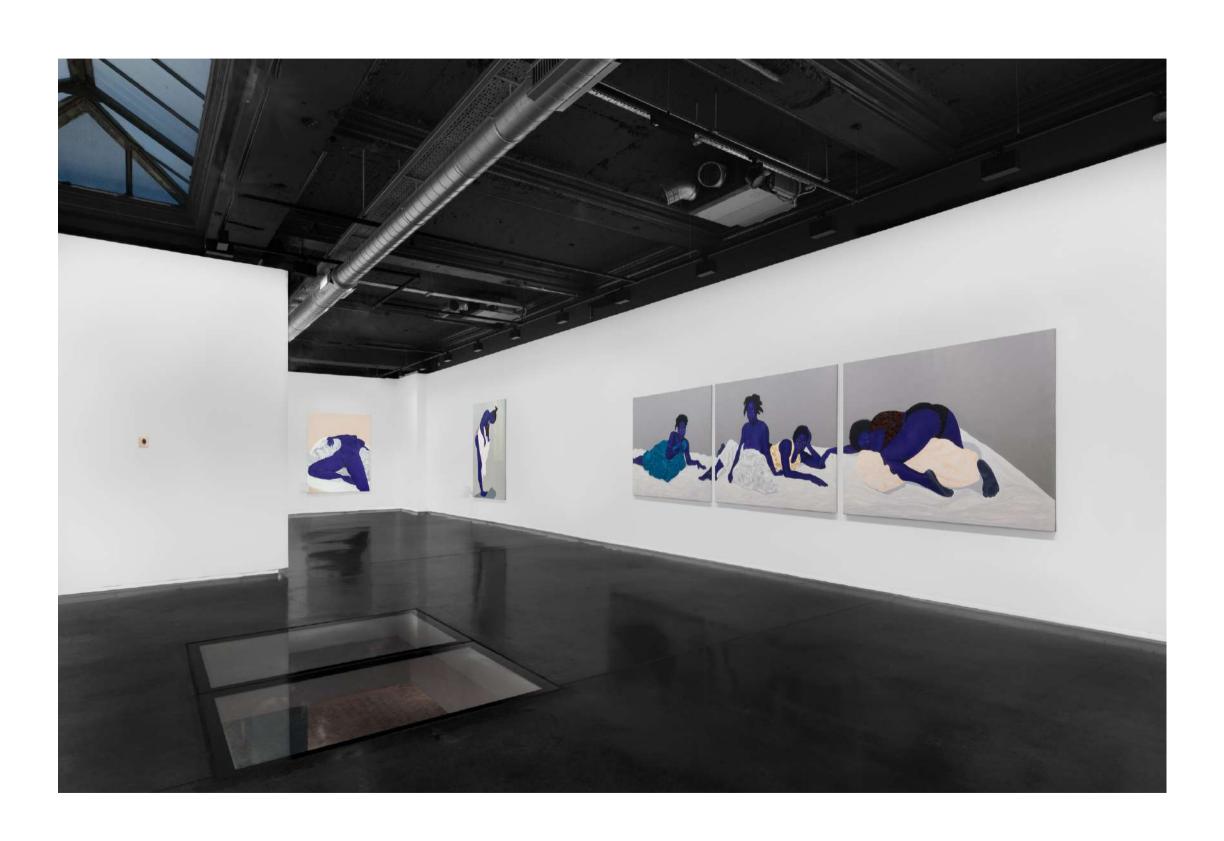
Memory
Generation
Heritage
Womanhood
African culture
Spirituality
Tradition
Music

Stacey Gillian Abe was born in Kampala, Uganda, in 1990. Abe's exhibition is an exploration of memory, time and emotion, focusing on how these are absorbed and transformed from generation to generation. Embroidery features throughout the exhibition as a gesture of femininity, a craft that has been traditionally practised by women which Abe resonated with the position of a black woman's body. Matrilineal connections are also reflected in Abe's incorporation of African music in the exhibition, recalling her childhood when tunes were played from her mother and aunt's cassette radio growing up. Ideas of generational memory also link to Abe's use of the colour indigo; the indigo-dyed fabrics facilitated the East African slave trade and were exchanged for the human body.

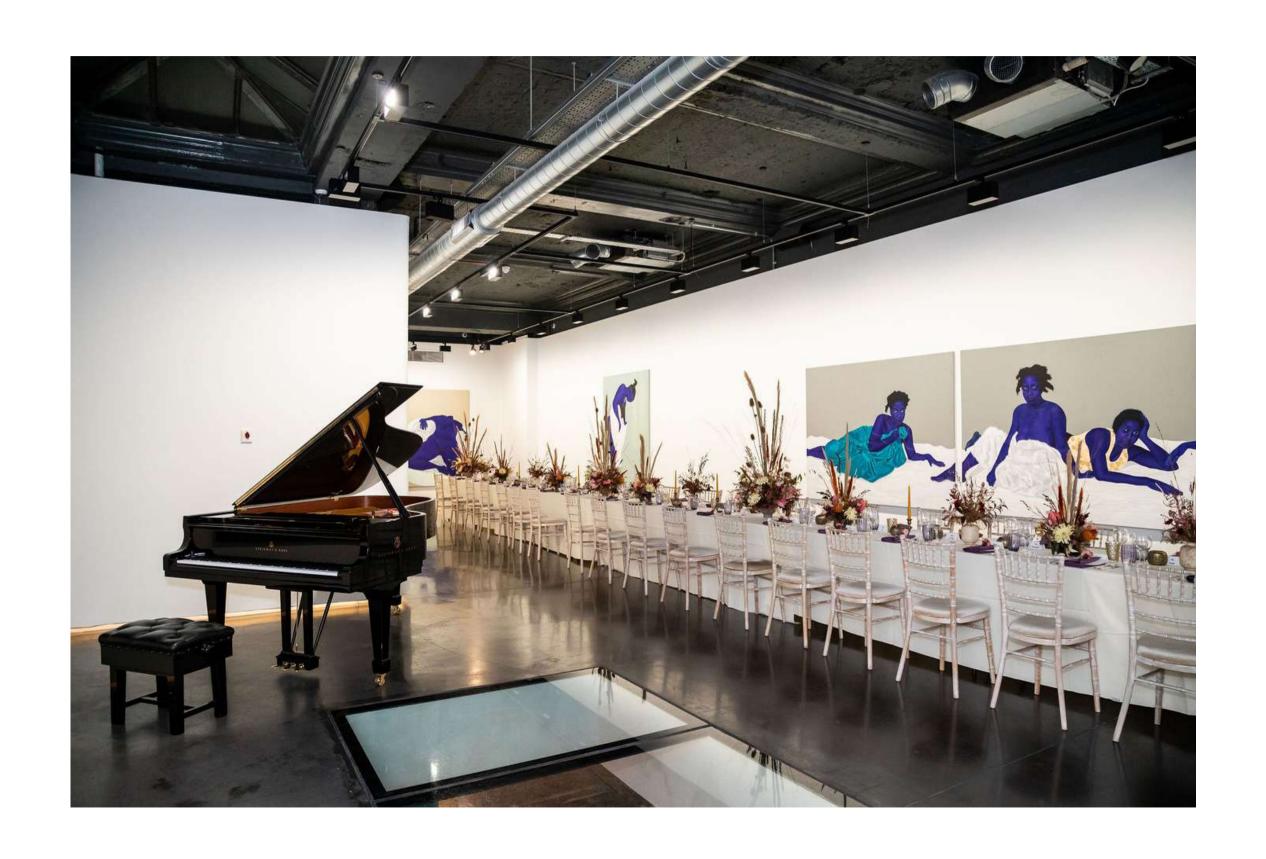








Events

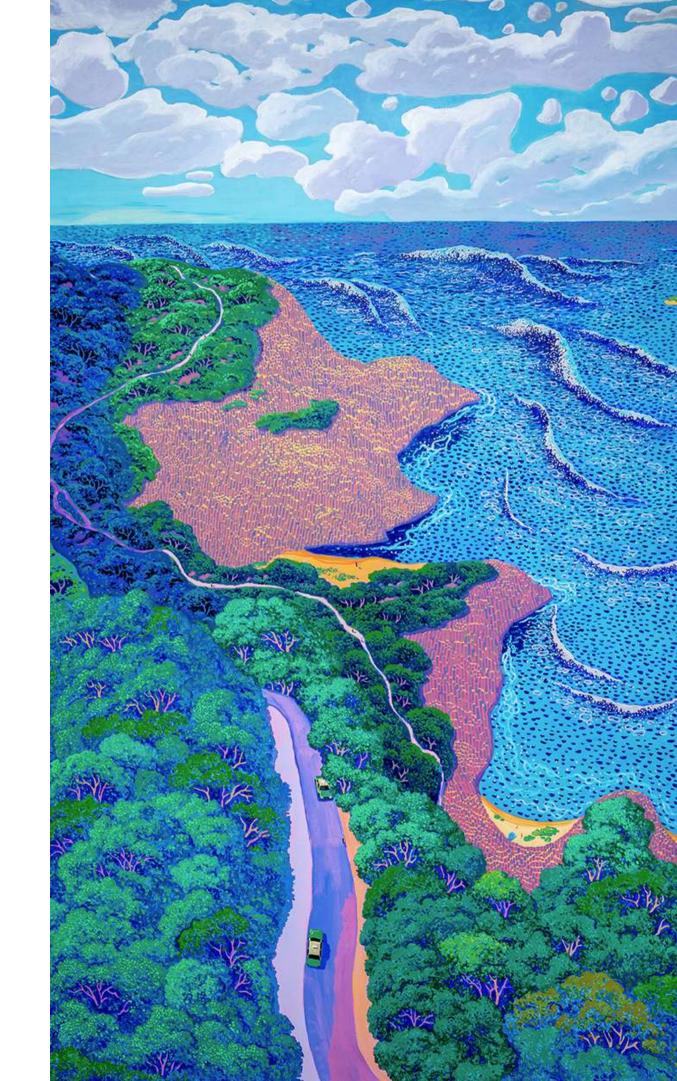


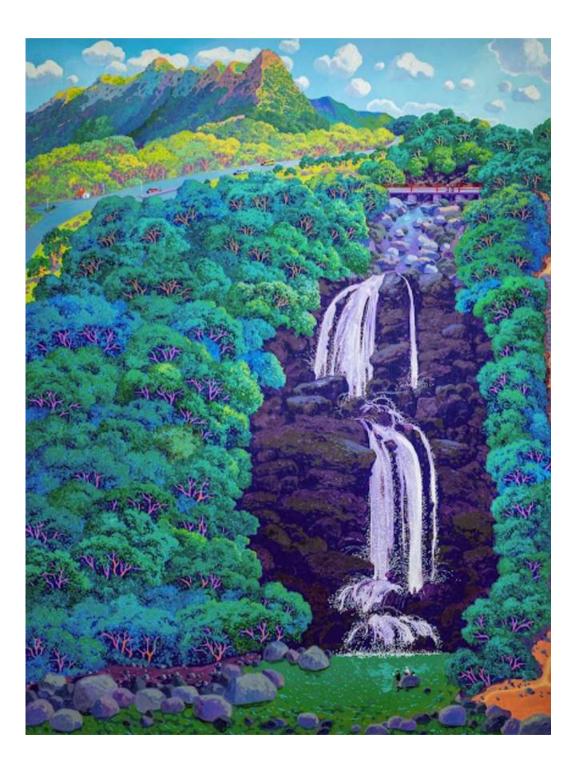
Stephen Wong

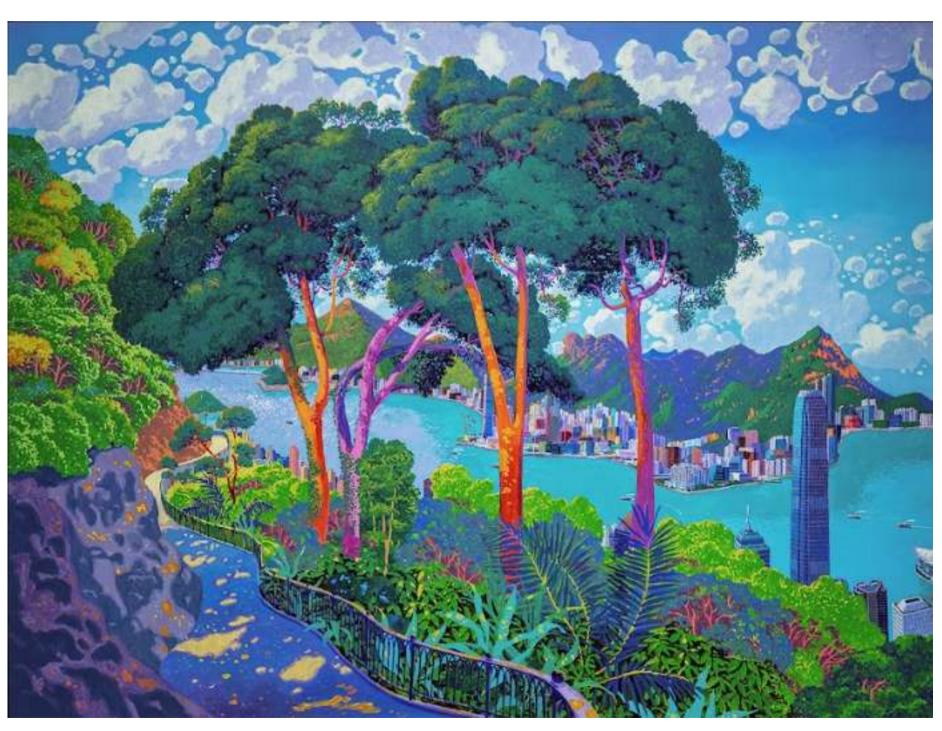
Dream Travel

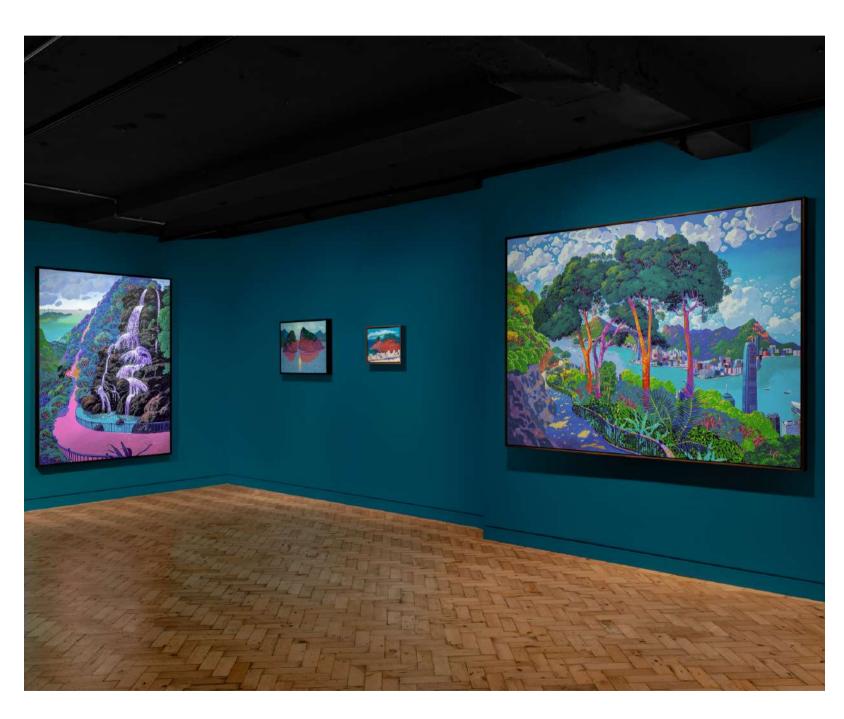
Landscapes
Road Trip
Journey
Virtual Reality
Nature
Colourful
Hong Kong
London
Pandemic

Dream Travel, Stephen Wong's first exhibition in London, combines two different series of landscape paintings. The first series presents larger canvases depicting Wong's hometown of Hong Kong portraying the green spaces and water scenery that surround Hong Kong. The second series presents a selection of smaller pieces that portray UK landscapes in the countryside. When creating this series, Wong began exploring the scenery via Google Earth during the pandemic when travel was restricted. The artist inserted his trademark toy car into each painting to recall the idea of a virtual road trip. The colour gradient hints at a sense of depth; brighter greens and pinks give way to cooler blues and purples as the colour palette follows the descending path of cascading water. The water scene is framed by an abundance of intricately painted trees.











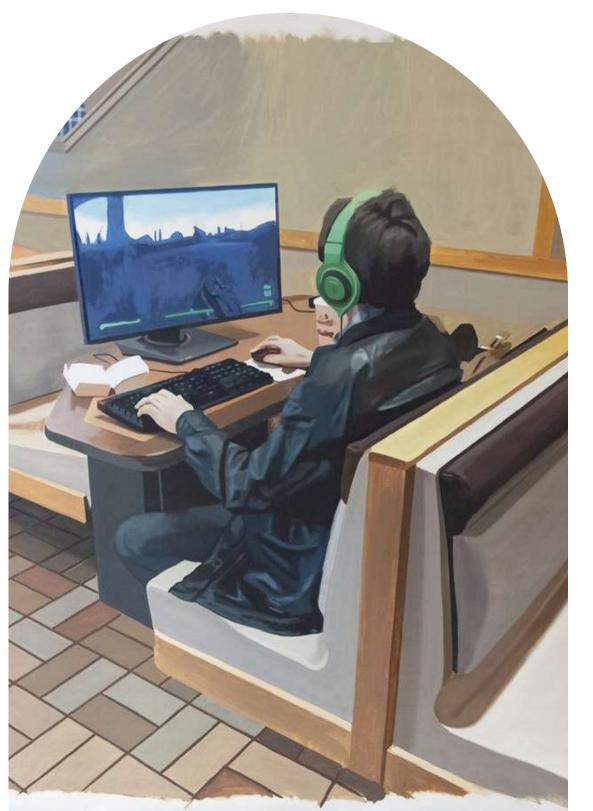
February

30 Jan - 4 March



Mauro C. Martinez | RateMySetup





Mauro C. Martinez

RateMySetup

Gaming
Escapism
(Dis)connectivity
Social Media
Cancel culture
Sensorship
Dark Humour
Internet Memes
Visual Language

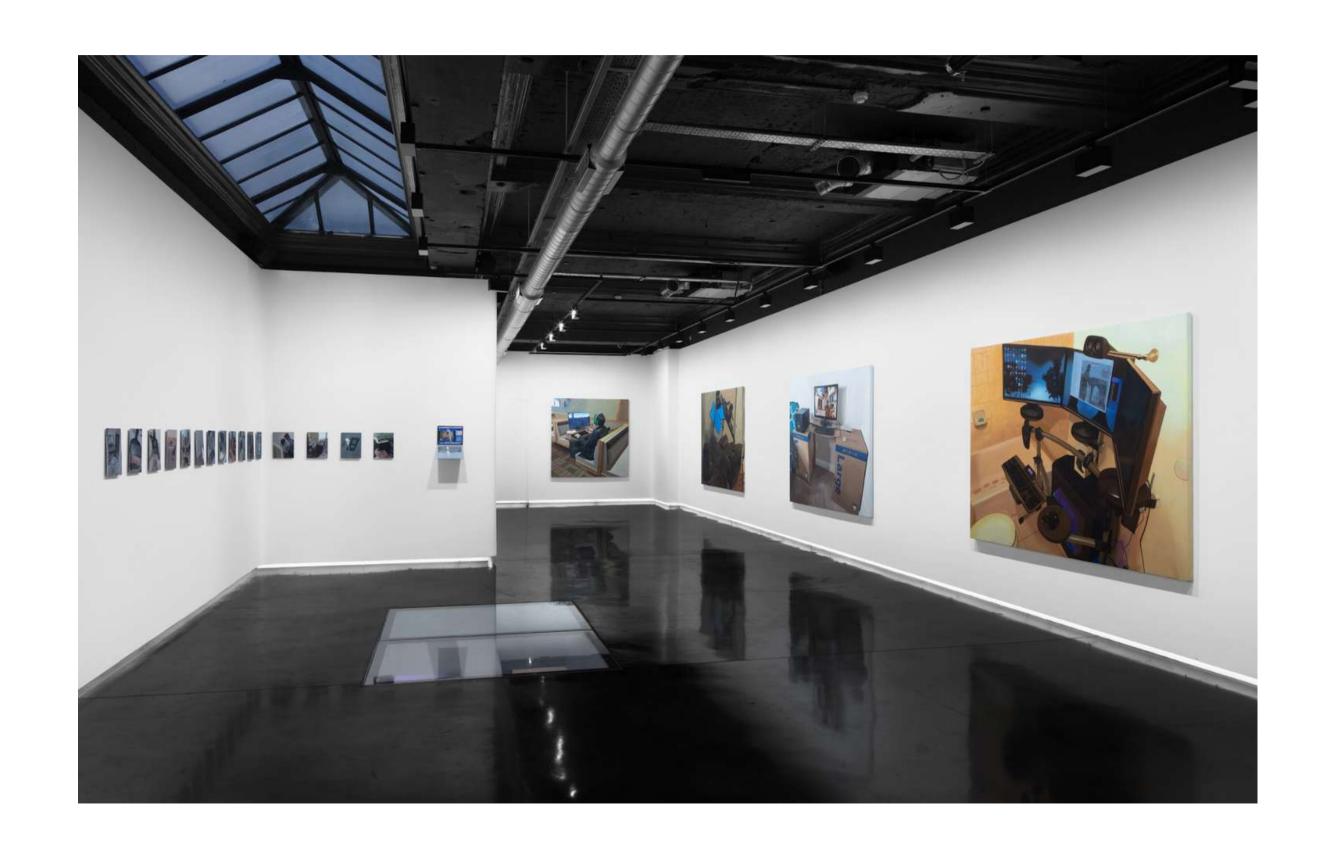
Martinez's paintings use metaphor, irony, and dark humour to comment on internet culture. He criticizes and mocks our relationship with contemporary imagery, drawing from the artist's own experiences of growing up with an absent father and being partially raised by technology. Martinez also uses technological motifs to convey ideas of rebellion against outdated systems and institutions. His work bridges the gap between the traditional upper-class art audience and younger generations from multiple backgrounds, giving them creative ways to understand and relate to contemporary issues like gaming, social media, and cancel culture that is part of our digital age. His body of work in RateMySetup offers a personal look at how these digital constructs impact our society's physical and mental connectedness.



Works -







March

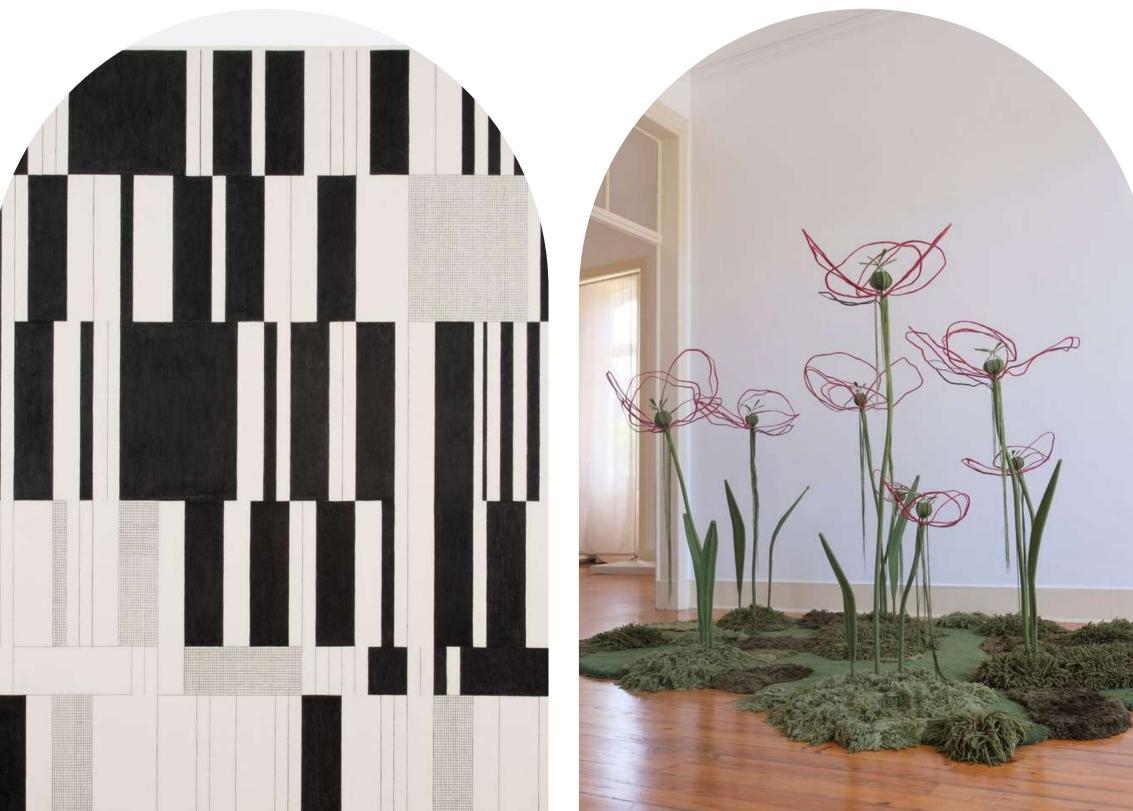
7 March - 6 April

Ground Floor

Tyler Hobbs | Mechanical Hand

Lower Ground Floor

Group Show: Within + Without



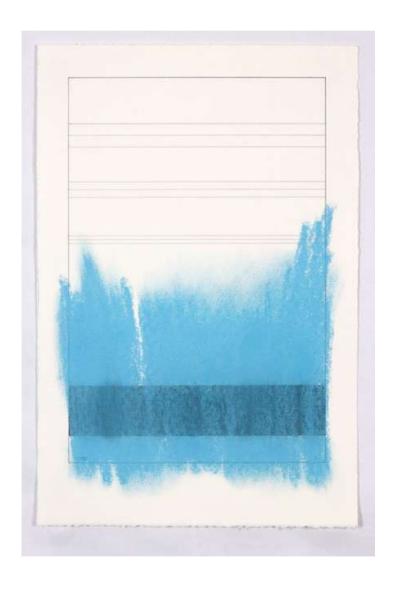


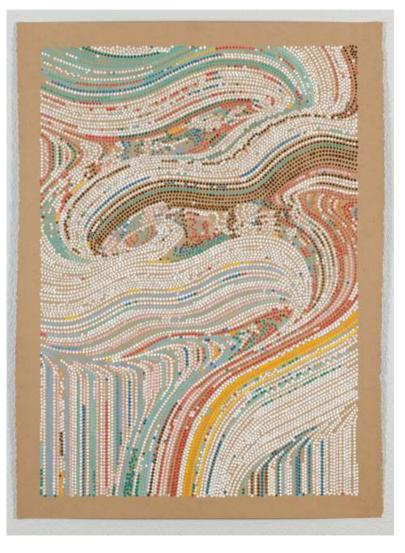
Tyler Hobbs

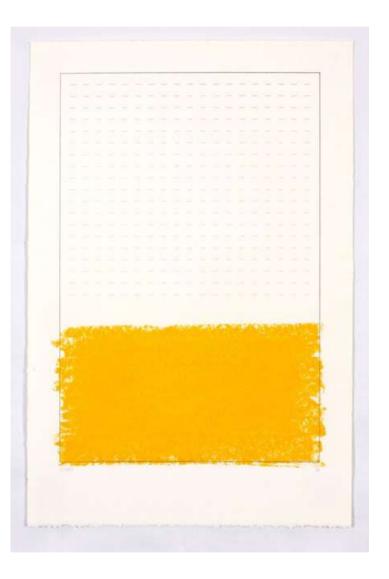
Futuristic Patterns Randomness Technology

Tyler Hobbs, a visual artist from Austin, Texas, specialises in using algorithms, plotters, and paint to create his artwork. He explores how Coding computational aesthetics are shaped by the biases of modern computer Generative Art hardware and software, and interact in the natural world. Hobbs creates custom algorithms to generate visual imagery that balances the structured precision of computers with the unpredictable chaos of the natural world. The core of each of his pieces is a carefully crafted combination computational structure unpredictable and Web3 randomness.

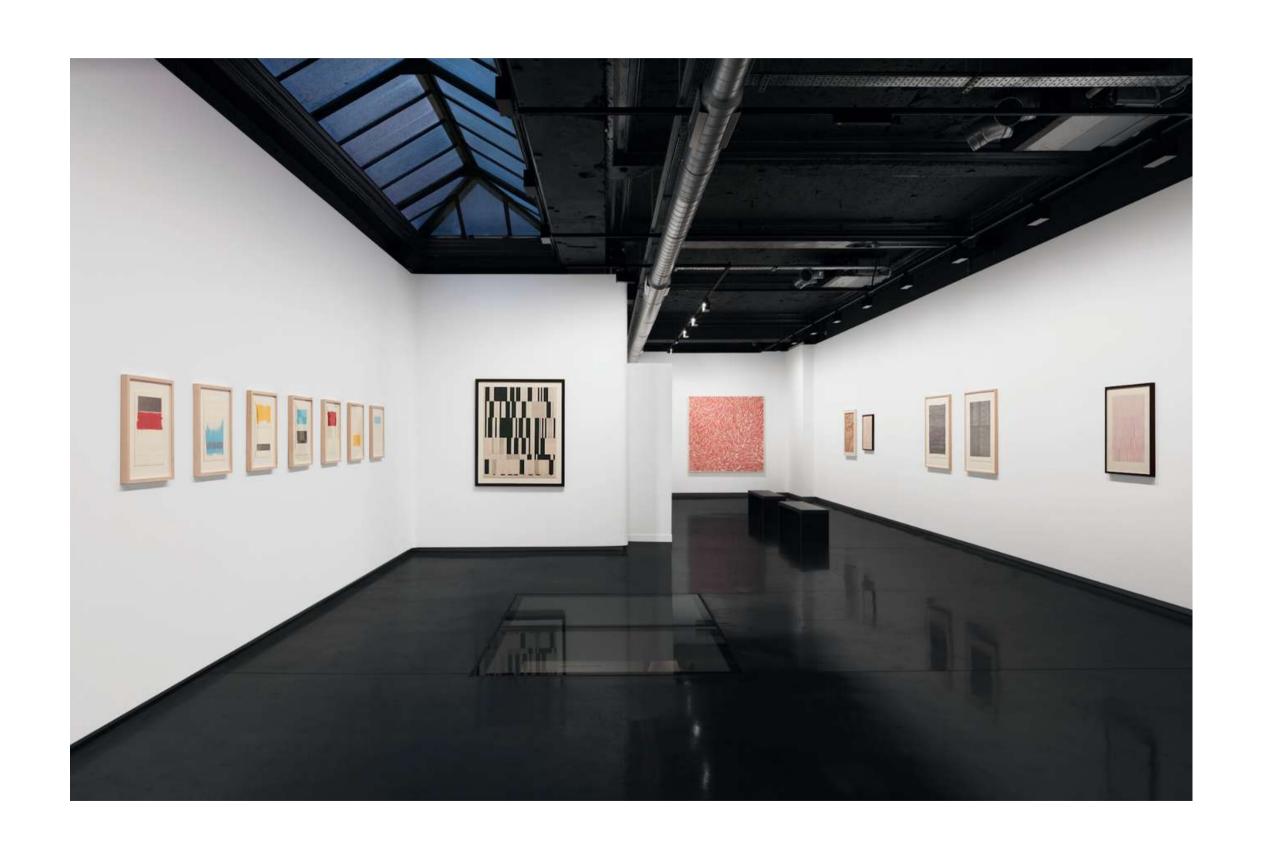












Events





Within + Without

Diversity **Textiles Ceramics** Sociology Identitu Tradition

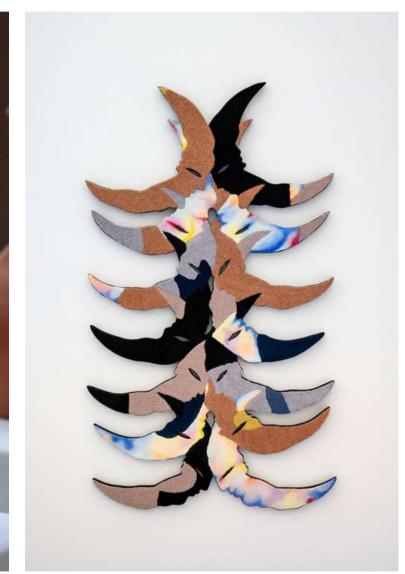
Within + Without brings together 12 contemporary artists working within the historically gendered mediums of textiles and ceramics, and Feminism exploring powerful representations of our inner and outer worlds. The Hierarchy works of these artists contrast, complement and intersect with each other, providing opportunities to examine relationships within and without. Within + Without is an extension of Ferren Gipson's research for her book Women's Work, with each project celebrating the continuing legacy of modern and contemporary women artists working in textiles and ceramics. Pieces by Vanessa Barragão, Claire Lindner, Collective Daisy Collingridge, Janice Redman, Phoebe Collings-James, Bisila Noha, Anya Paintsil, Sarah Zapata, Ferren Gipson, Bea Bonafini, Armina Howada Mussa and Paloma Proudfoot will be featured.

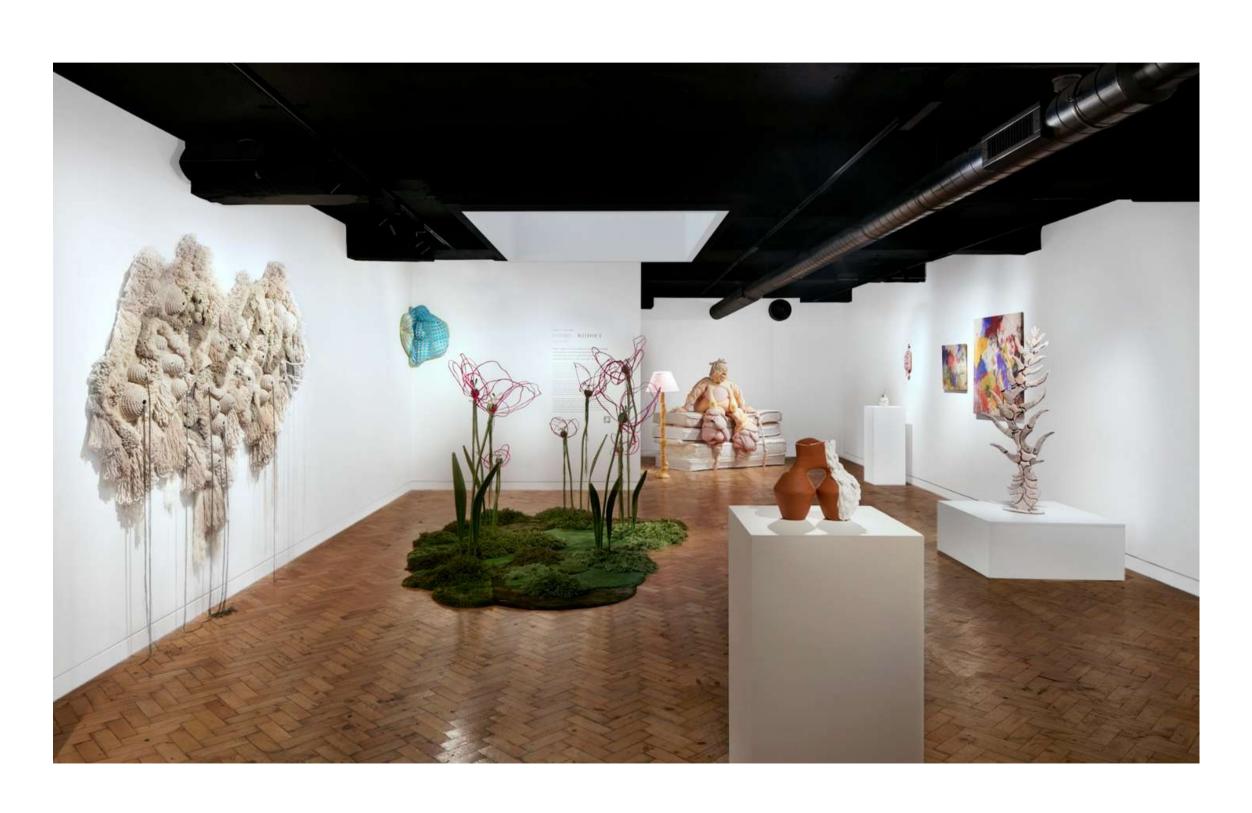












April

11 April - 20 May



Sasha Ferré - Morphogenesis

Lower Ground Floor

Karms Thammatat - Utopia Now



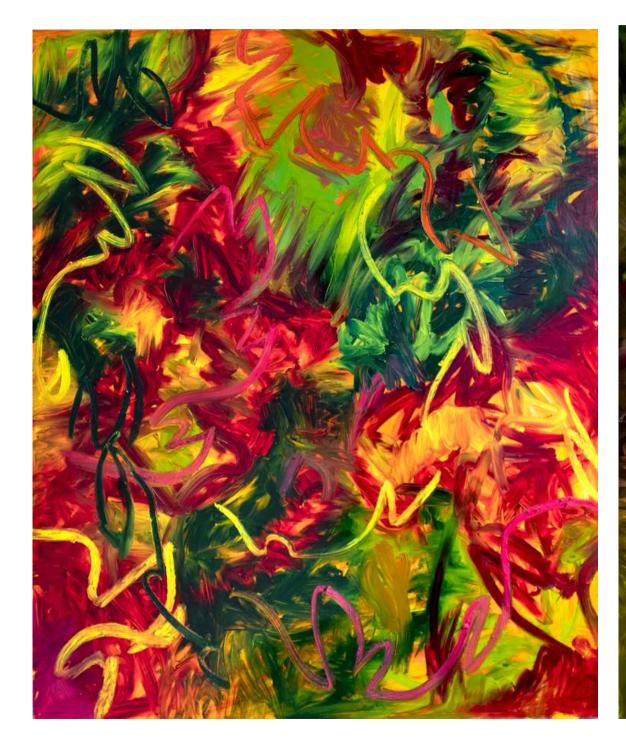


Sasha Ferré

Ecology Abstraction **Plants Art and Science** Metamorphoses

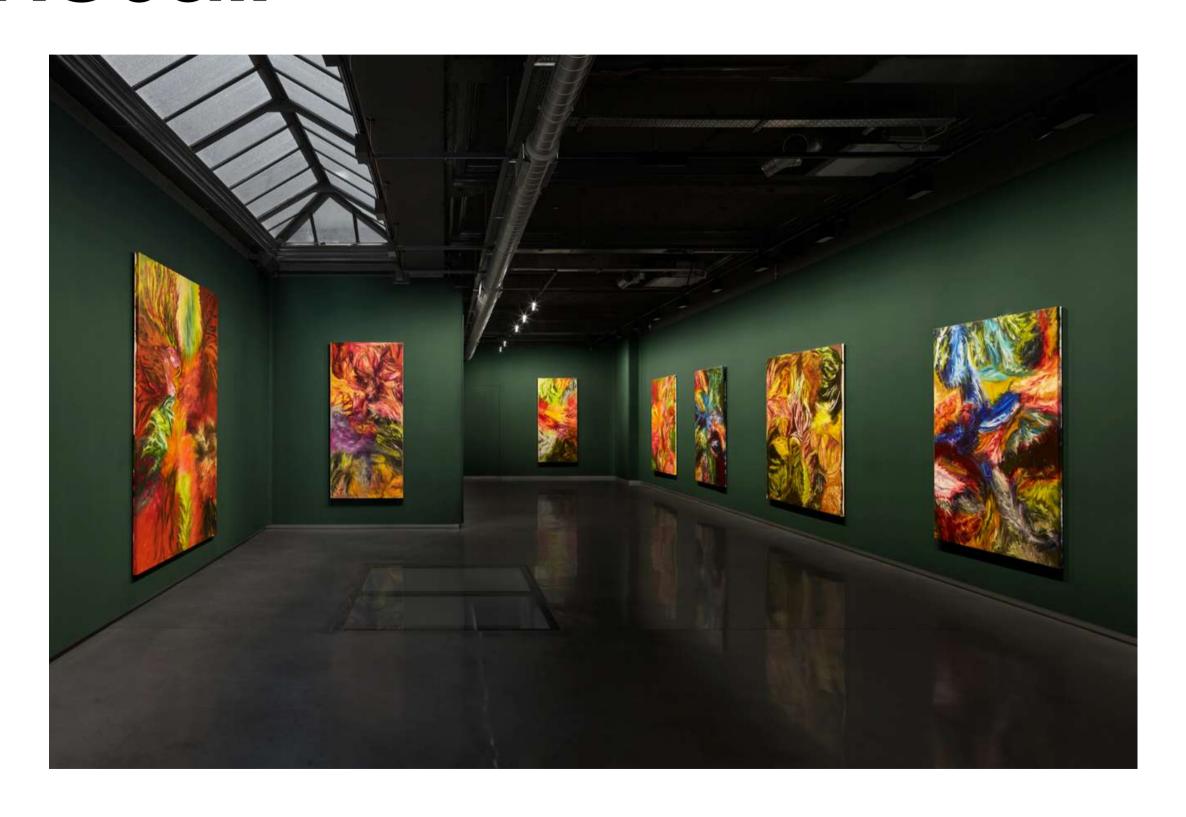
Sasha Ferré's art explores the interconnectedness of the natural world. She creates paintings on unstretched canvases using a process-Environmentalism oriented approach, drawing inspiration from ecology, the philosophy of *Natura* biology, and the concept of ontology. Ferré believes that humanity and nature are not separate entities, but rather, they are made of the same living substance, which is the foundation of her artistic research. She creates her paintings on the floor of her studio, which she considers to be a natural biome. Ferré's work is characterized by the integration of the exterior and the interior, where the process or system is open to Organic shapes the outside and the unknown.



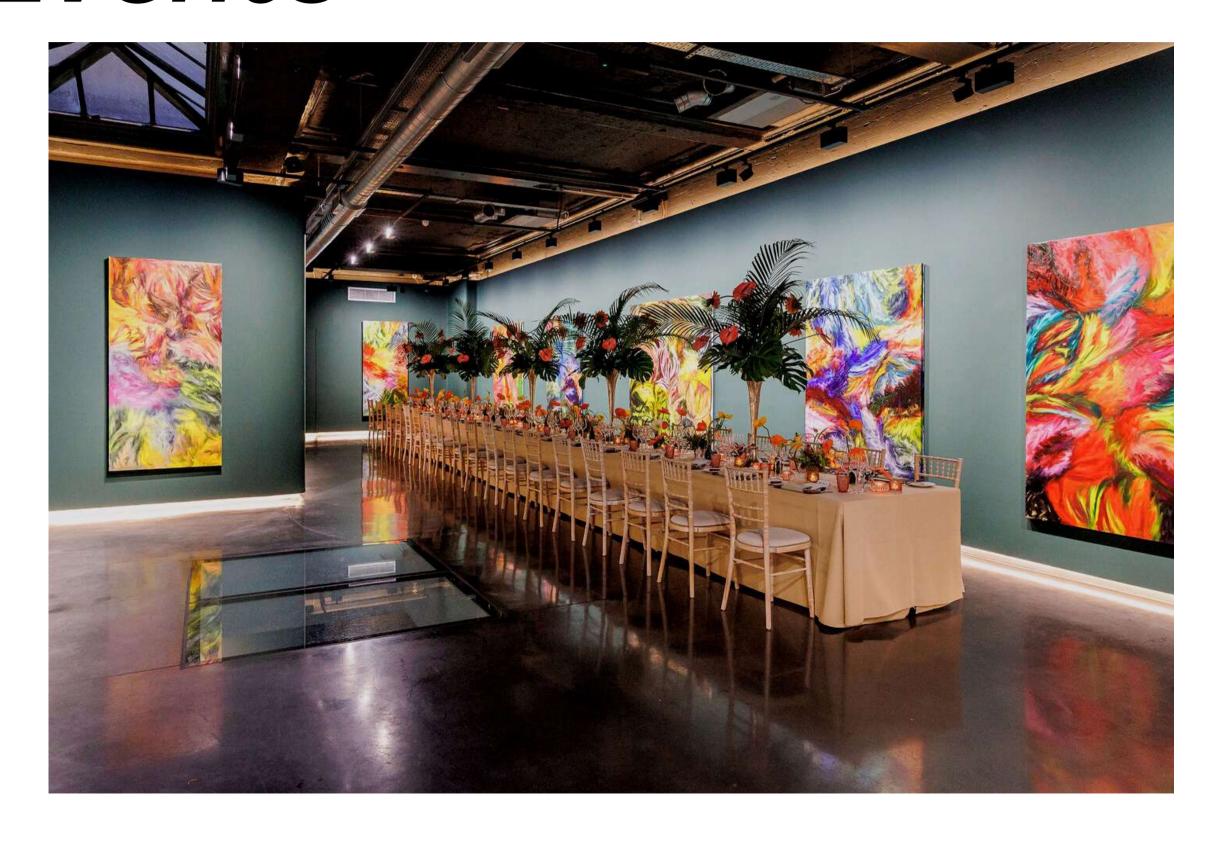








Events



Karms Thammatat

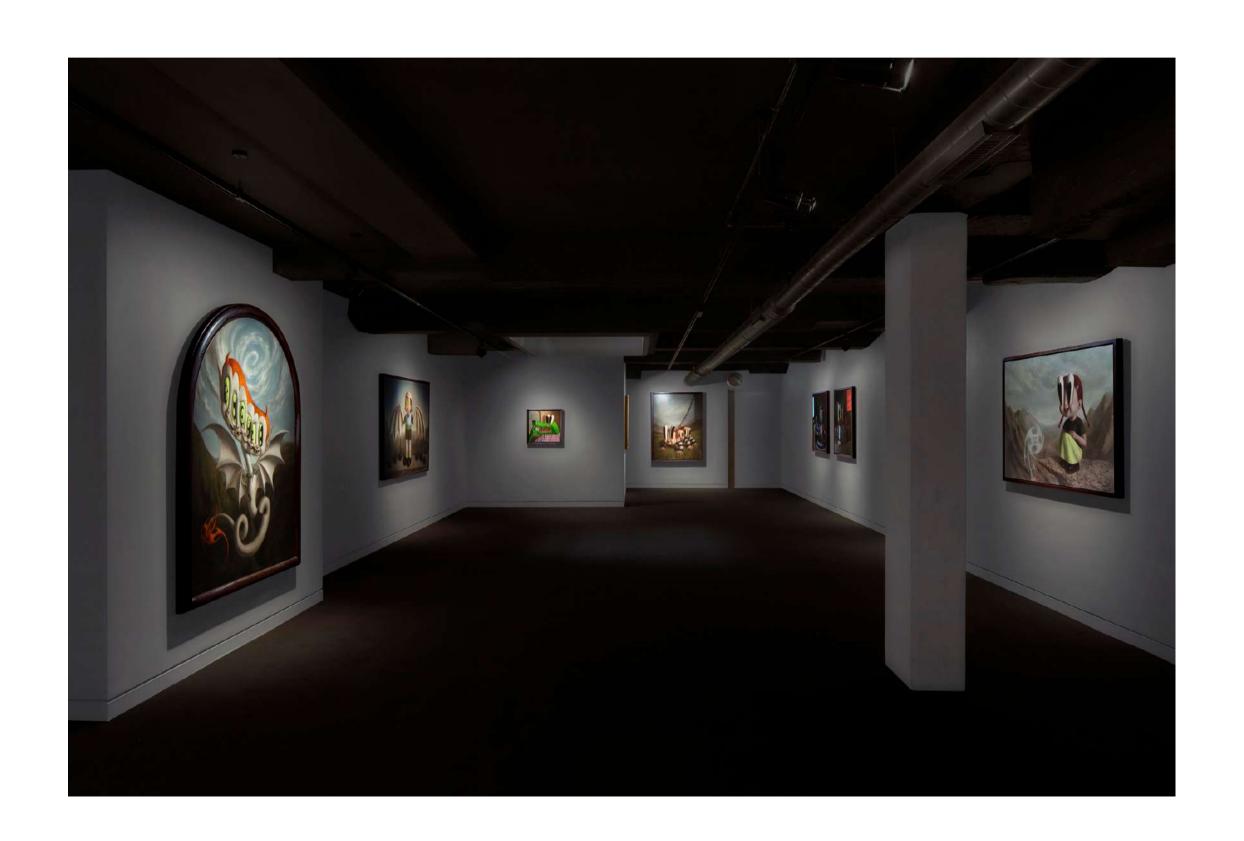
Cartoon Uncanny Characters Oil Painting Societu Human Behaviour

KARMS Thammatat is a Thai artist based in Bangkok, Thailand. KARMS creates a new dimension filled with surreal characters living in an Pop-surrealism uncanny and contradicting environment. His world reflects his **Observation** observations behaviour humankind the of miscommunication, which sometimes leads to misunderstanding, gossip, curiosity and reality in society. Having been drawing cartoon characters from a young age KARMS's style evolved to become more expressive, using intricate oil painting techniques of composition, light, and shadow. As an observant of "humanity", every piece of his work Lowbrow Arts tends to be inspired by both the surrounding society and everyday life. Karms' work seeps a feeling of inviting people to uncover and gain something according to how each and every individual will feel.









May

23 May - 17 June

Ground Floor

Rex Southwick

Lower Ground Floor
London Calling

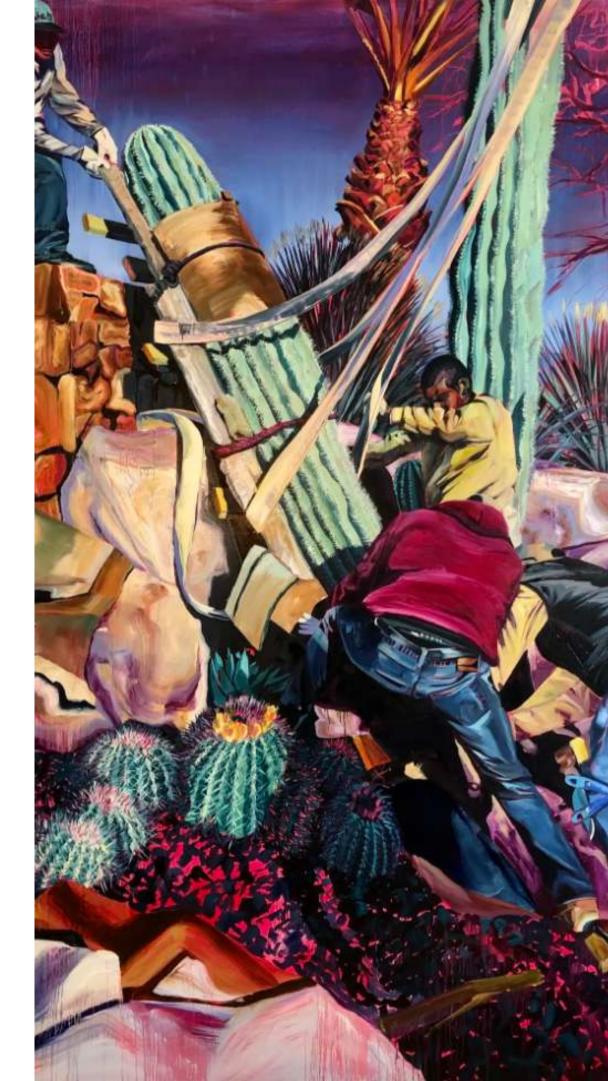


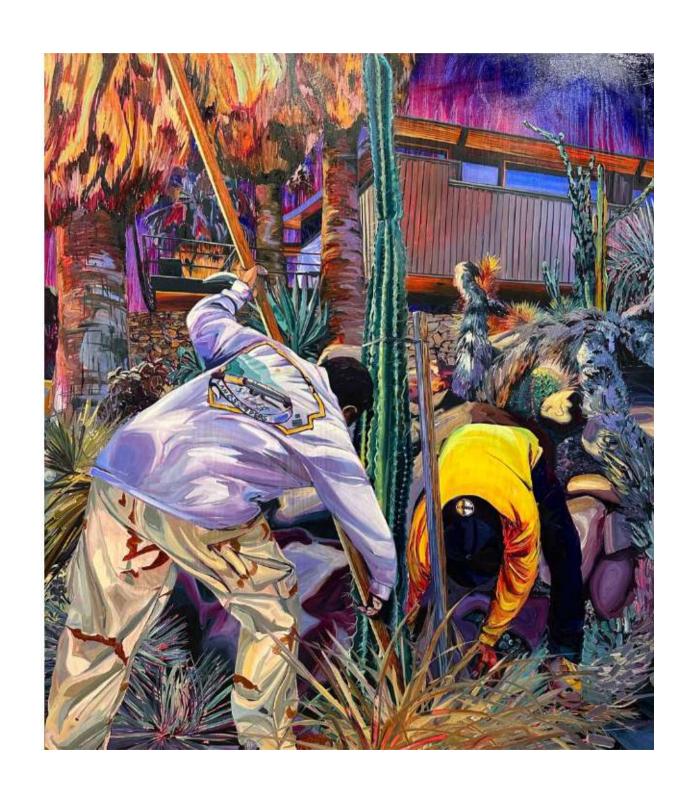


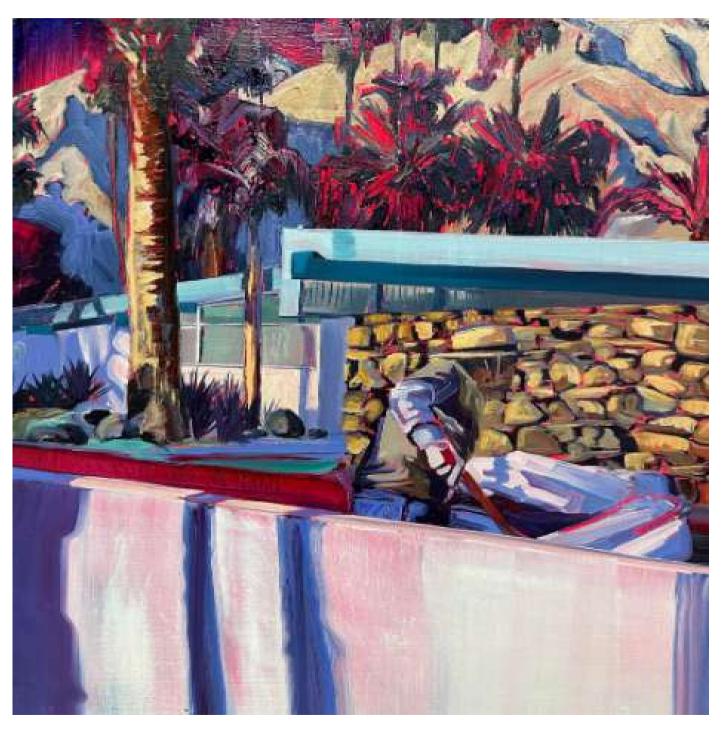
Rex Southwick

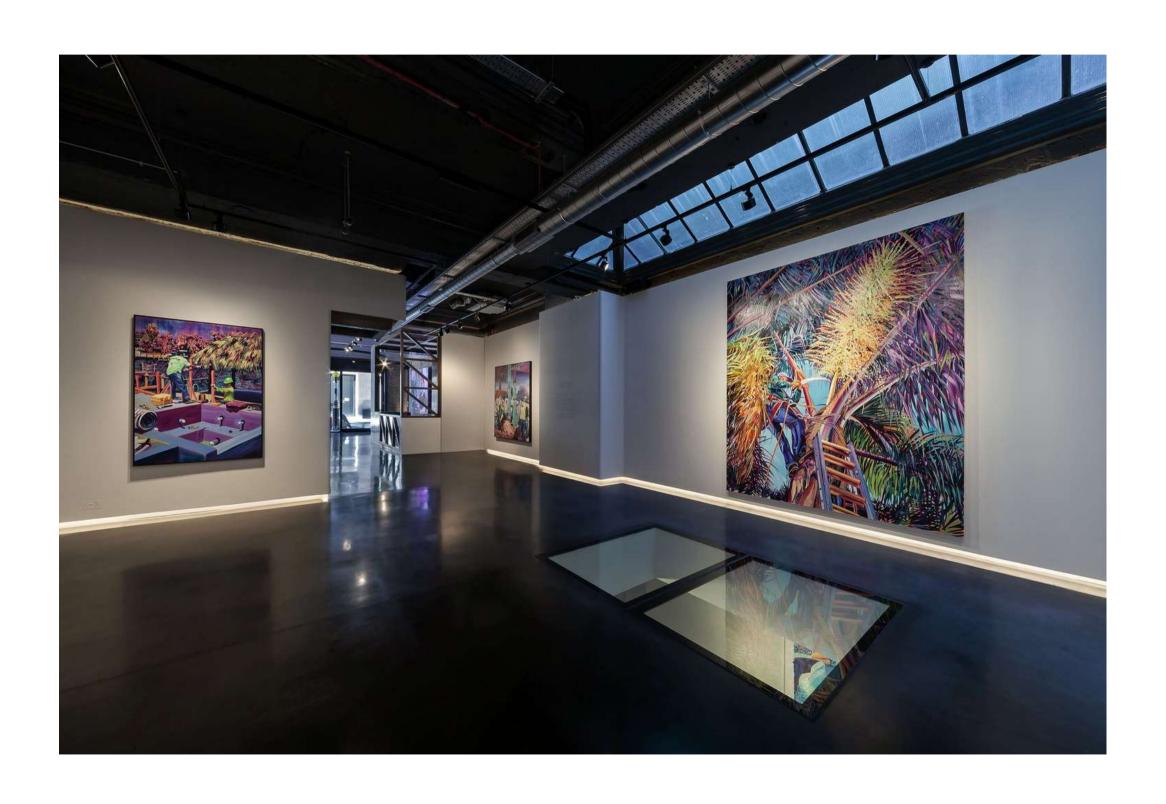
Modernist Archetype Young Contemporary **British** Oil Paintings Luxury

Rex Southwick's paintings explore the interactions with domestic spaces in relation to ownership and aspiration. Southwick's artworks Vibrant Colours face the idealised imagery of luxury domestic environments Realism disseminated by digital platforms. The artist works primarily from photographs provided by Balearic and American building contractors to present the real process behind the creation of these seemingly perfect homes. Southwick uses the same bright pink background colour for all his paintings, which gives them their saturated quality as rich colours offset the seemingly unremarkable subject matter. He frequently employs the modernist motif of the swimming pool but plays with its archetypal representation, choosing to render the apparently unglamorous phase of its construction. As such, Southwick constantly challenges our perceptions of luxury and privilege by encouraging us to question imagery that is presented as ostensibly perfect.









Events



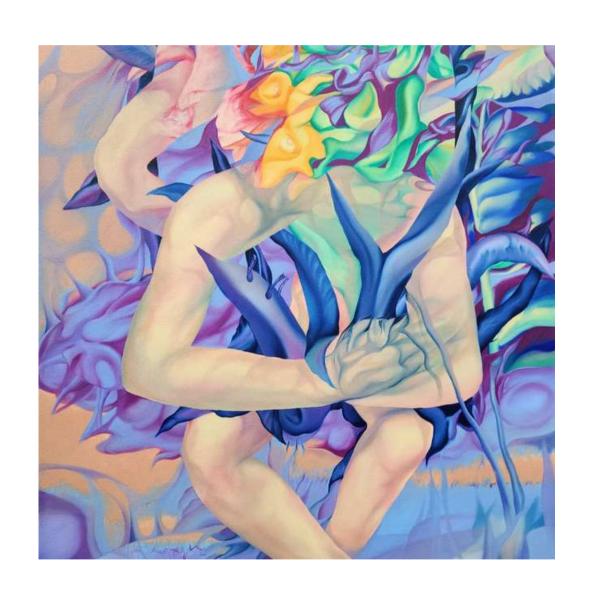


London Calling

British Art
Group Show
Identity
Nationality
Multiculturalism
Pluralism
Tracey Emin
Jake Wood Evans
Helen Beard

The group exhibition London Calling provides an expansive vision of what it means to be an artist living and working in the UK capital today. Reflecting the pluralism and multiculturalism of a city in which more than 200 languages are spoken, the exhibition provides a transection of the incredible variety of artistic voices who are shaping a new definition of British art and, by extension, broadening ideas of what it means to be British. Encompassing recent arrivals and generations-long inhabitants, London Calling celebrates the many contributions of those who have chosen to make the capital of this small island their home.

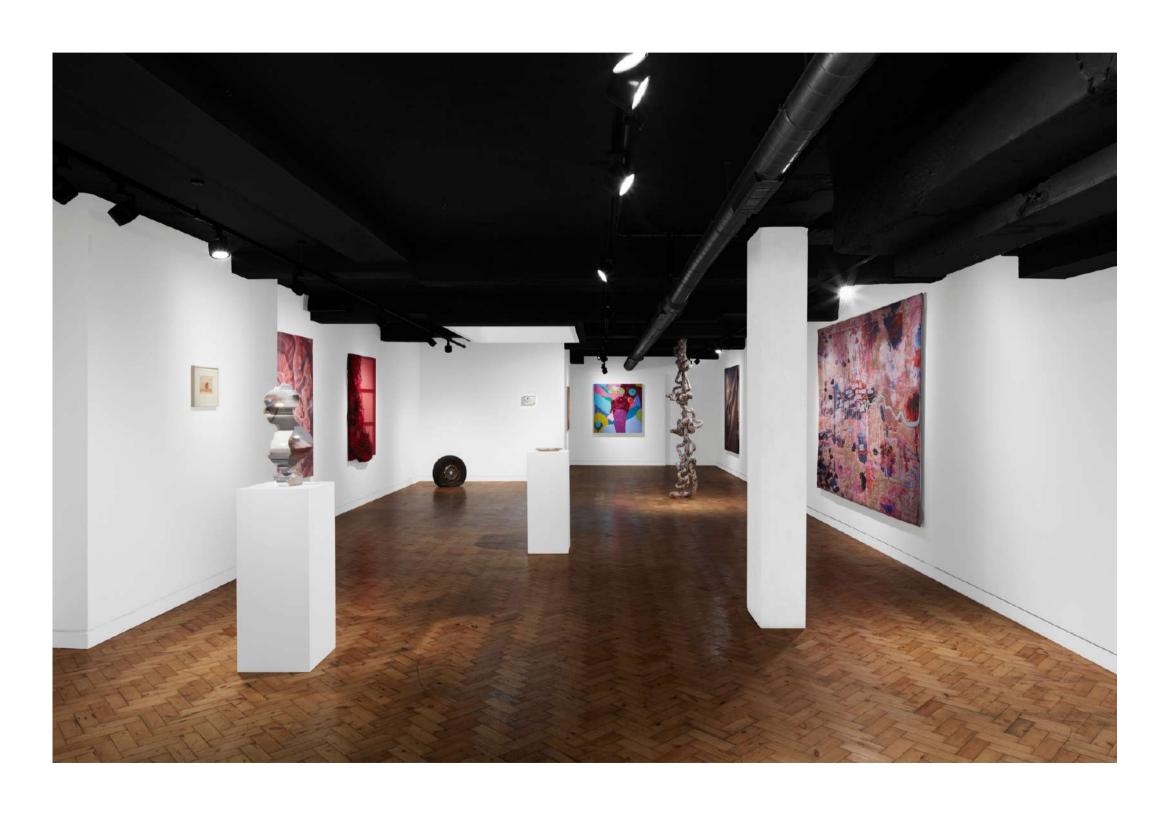




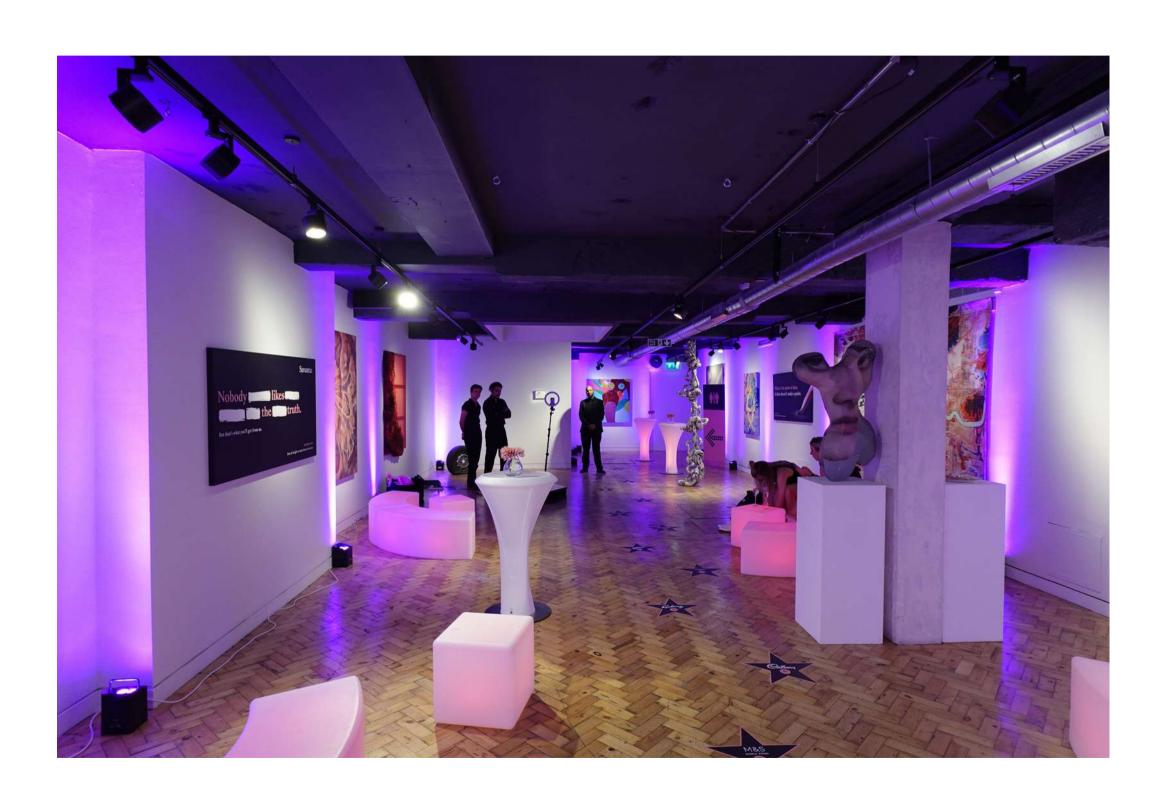




Install



Events



July

20 June - 22 July

Ground Floor & Maxim Zhetskov

Lower Ground Floor
Henry Hudson



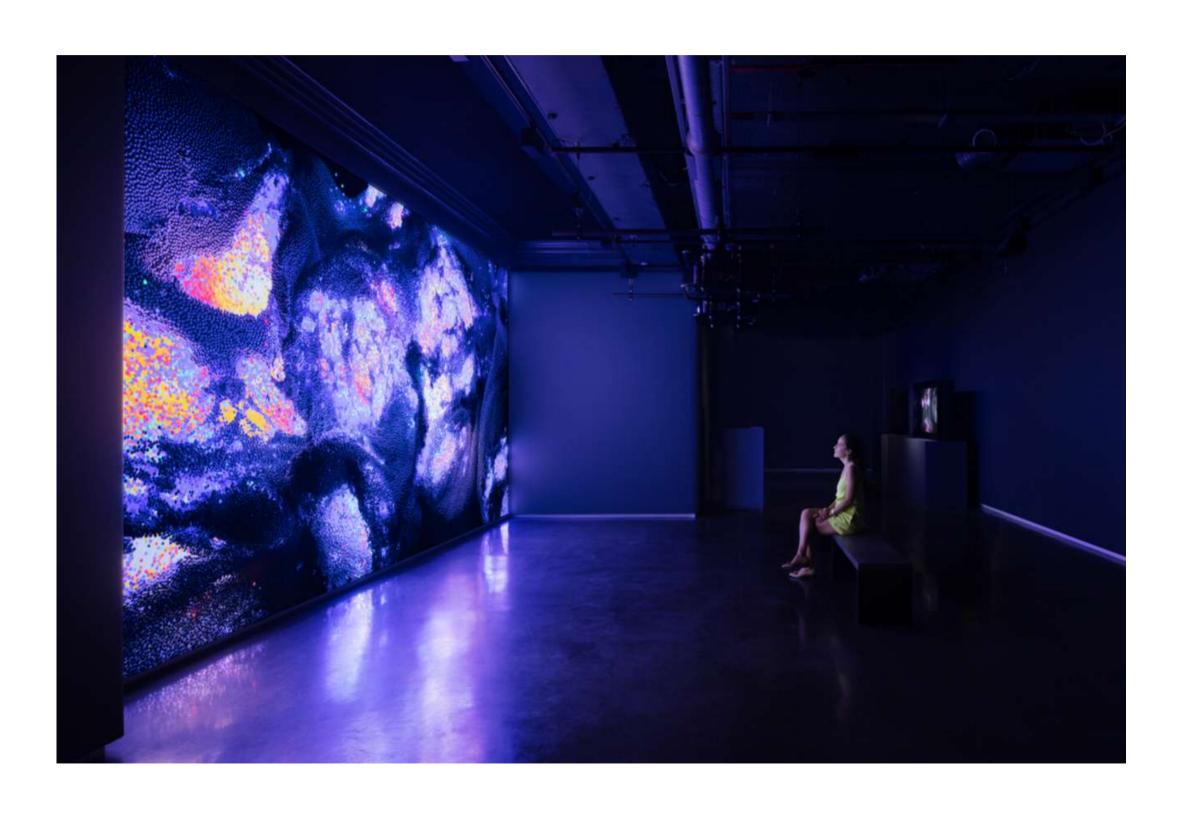
Maxim Zhetskov

Technology **Architecture** Conceptual Art Metaphysics Computations Simulation

Maxim Zhestkov is a Russian visual and motion graphic artist currently based in London. Zhestkov's practice centres around the influence of Al Sculptures digital media on shifting the boundaries of visual language. In digitally Generative Art rendered contemporary gallery-like settings, digital forms and motion sculptures move and interact. The forms are beautifully choreographed, producing rhythmic and complex movement patterns that play with their surroundings. Zhestkov's work pushes the boundaries of the traditional white cube gallery environment, and Randomness questions how art is and will be viewed and experienced with the Motion Graphics increasing influence of digital media. The works also aim to merge architecture, sculpture, colour, movement and sound to explore the relationship between digital and physical environments. Zhestkov worked on commissions from Google and Microsoft to MTV and BMW.



Install



Henry Hudson

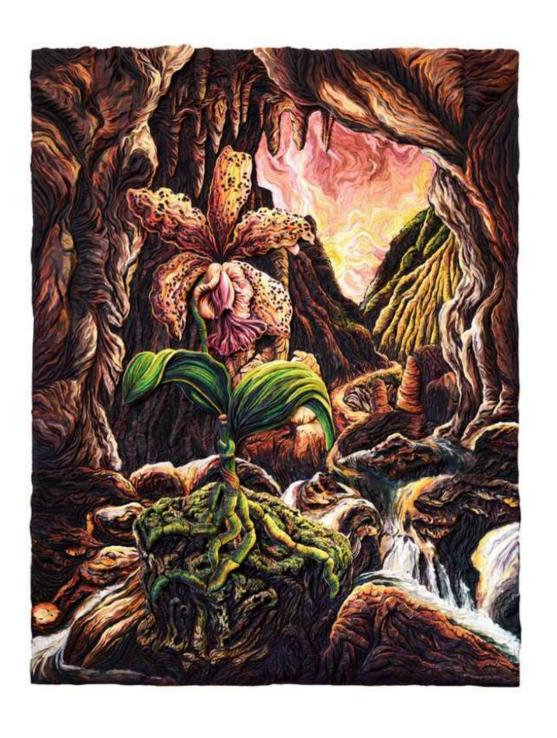
Colour Texture
Plasticine Jungle
Horizons
Materiality
Abstraction
Landscape Art

British artist Henry Hudson works create a heightened world of colour, form and texture through performative and expressive movement. Hudson began to manipulate Plasticine to achieve a similar effect to the densely layered paint. Hudson's works therefore seem to lie between painting and sculpture, becoming vibrant reliefs. The unusual use of Plasticine as a medium is particularly effective in Hudson's jungle artworks. The thickness of the material seems to convey the weight of humid tropical climates and dense vegetation. The artist even mixes the Plasticine with luminous paint in order to produce these richly fluorescent jungle scenes. The luminescent colouring emphasises the dream-like qualities of these works that imagine the otherworldly wondrousness of natural spaces untouched by humans.

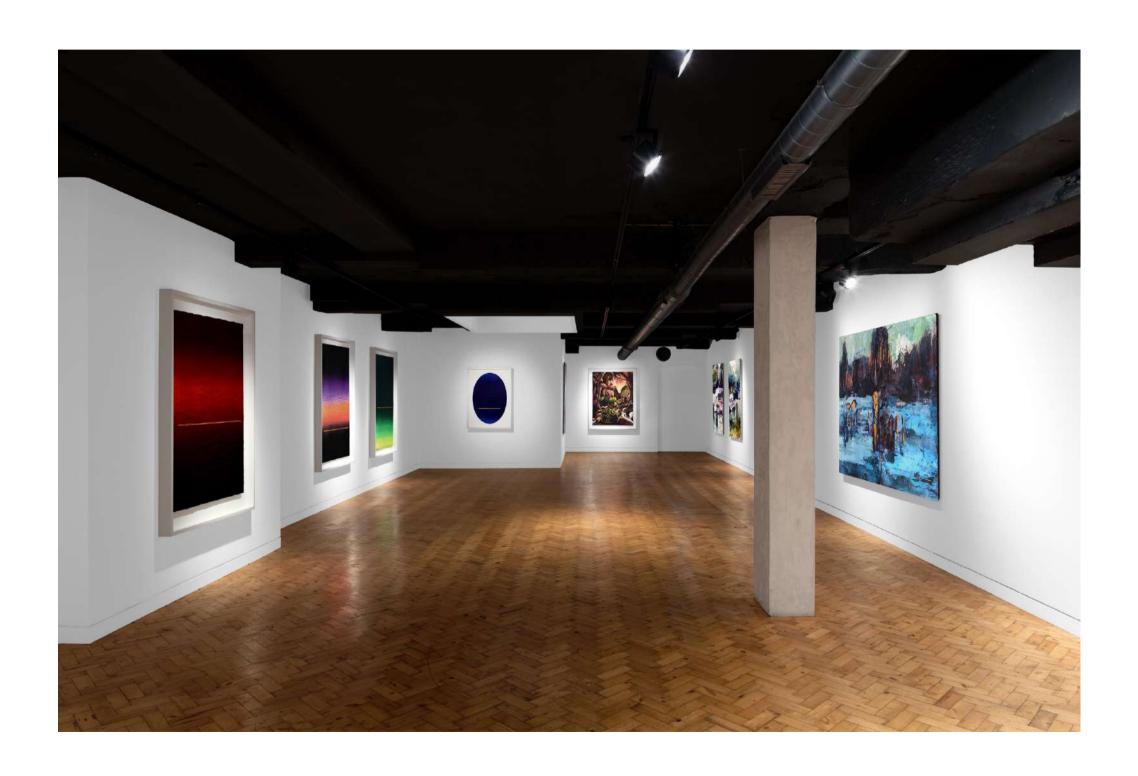








Install



August

25 July - 26 August

Ground Floor &

Sthenjwa Luthuli

Lower Ground Floor

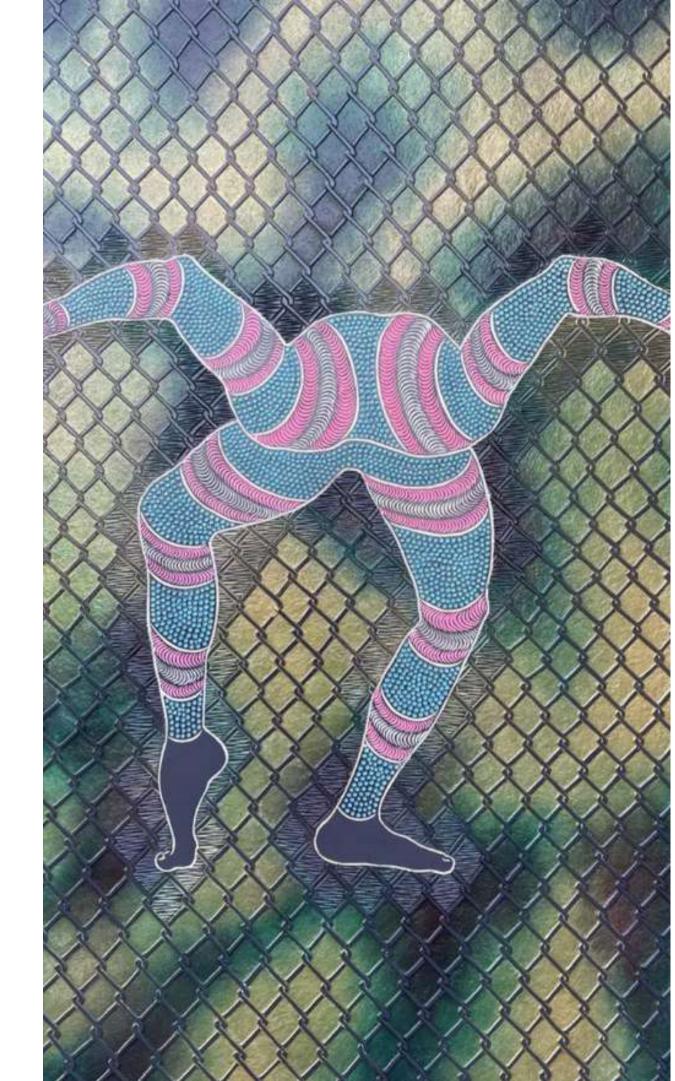
Sho Shibuya



Sthenjwa Luthuli

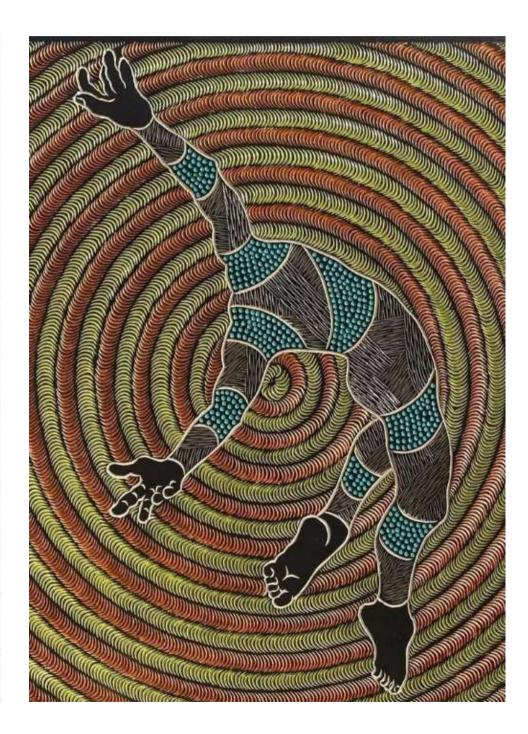
South African Pattern Rituals Zulu Culture

Sthenjwa Luthuli is a socially conscious artist who reflects on contemporary South African society. Luthuli's capacity to critically analyse the ever-shifting social landscape he grew up in has made him one of South Africa's most sought after young artists. His creative voice draws attention to the restrictions that are still placed on the Sumbolism lives of ethnic minorities in South Africa. Sthenjwa elucidates the **Political Art** reality that, for many, life is about restrictions, about control, about **Society** being told what to do and how to do it. Pattern, texture, and design are Architecture very important to his practice, both aesthetically and metaphorically: the surface of the works seems to shimmer and shift under the eye. The figures are headless: a symbolic gesture to the important connection between education and liberation. They are shackled by circumstance, their free will eroded by the abused powers of the state and lacking social infrastructure.

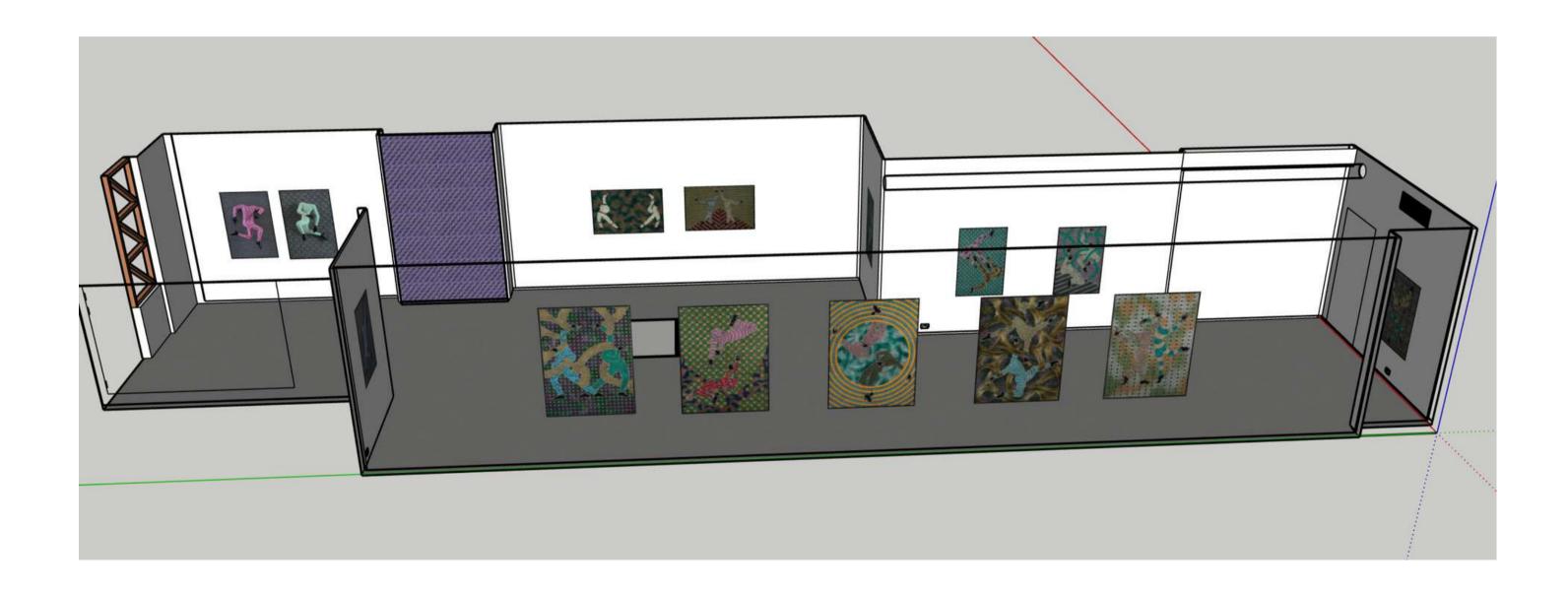








Install Plan



Sho Shibuya

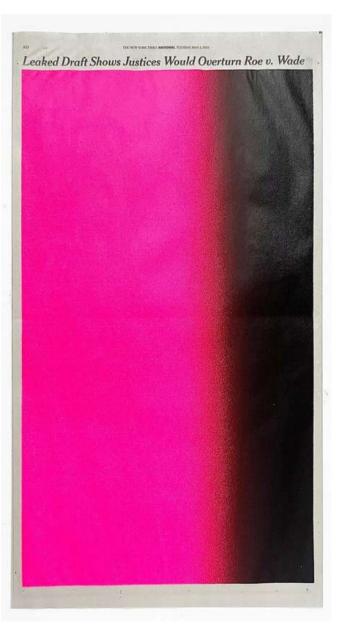
Political Art
Globalism
Found Objects
Everyday Life
Sunrises
Colour Gradients
Pandemic
Lockdown
News
Conceptual Art
Juxtaposition

Sho Shibuya is a New York-based artist and graphic designer. Shibuya began the project titled, "Sunrises From A Small Window" exploring his own necessary creative output. When COVID-19 hit New York City resulting in a quarantine of the entire city, Shibuya drew inspiration from the view from his studio in Brooklyn, looking outside the small windows of his apartment and observing the changing colours of the sky. He found the juxtaposition of the beautiful colours and the overwhelming anxiety-producing headlines of the day's paper captivating. He began to capture that contrast by reproducing the sunrises with paint and the New York Times daily paper. By covering the articles and headlines on the paper with the beautiful sunrises he NYC strives to remind of the little moments of peace in a world full of sorrow and uncertainty.



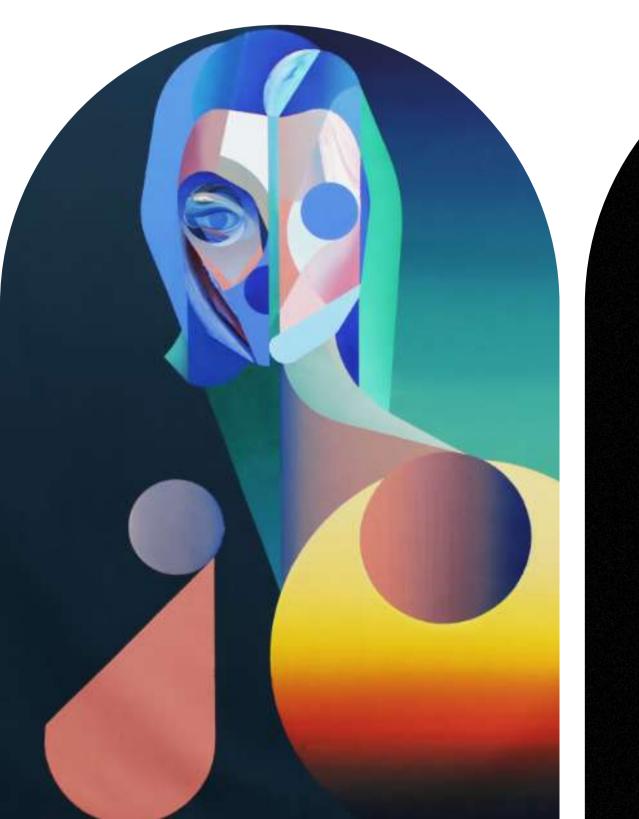








September





<u>30 August - 18 September</u> Ground Floor

Group Show (Artists TBC)

Lower Ground Floor

Ryan Hewett

21-30 September

Unit London 10th Anniversary

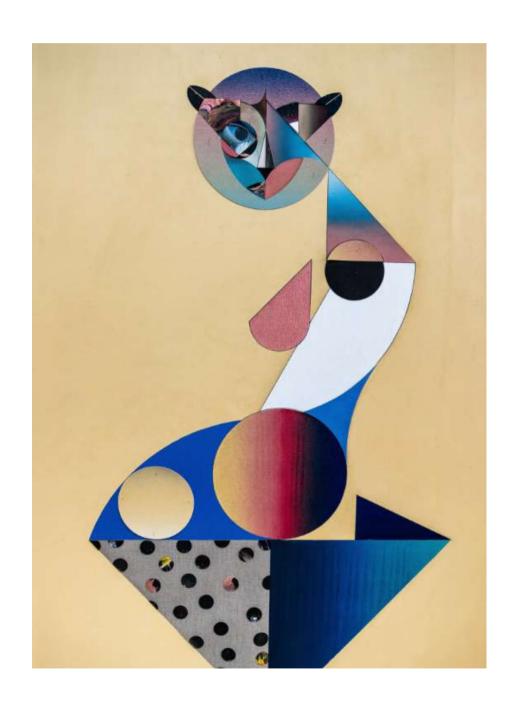
Group Show

Ryan Hewett

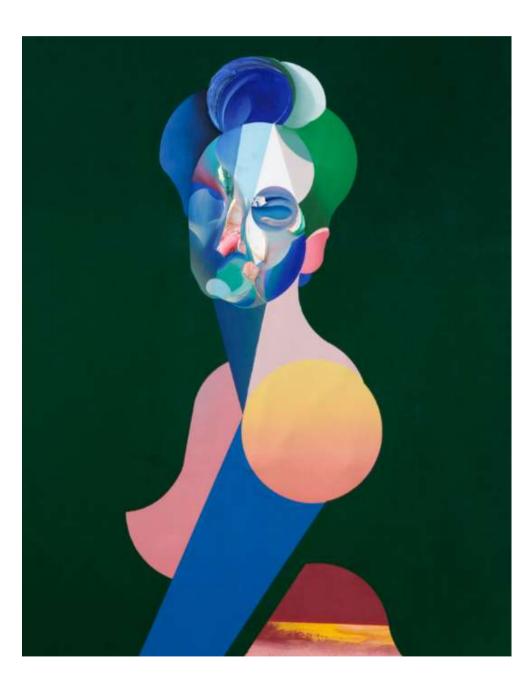
Constructivism Surrealism **Abstraction** Neo-cubism Sensation Oil Painting

Hewett has honed his singular style throughout the course of his artistic career, transitioning from controlled pencil drawings, to **Portraiture** gestural portraiture and, most recently, to sweeping landscapes. His Geometric movement into landscape demonstrates Hewett's command of the materiality of his artworks, which are deeply textured as rich impasto areas of paint complement smooth geometric expanses. Hewett relies on the fluid process of memory and imagination to create his works. He paints with no preconceptions, allowing his artworks to unfold intuitively onto the canvas. Both Hewett's portraiture and landscapes Evocative build upon the potential of abstraction, rendering more than simple likenesses and reproductions, but the essence of a mood or sensation.









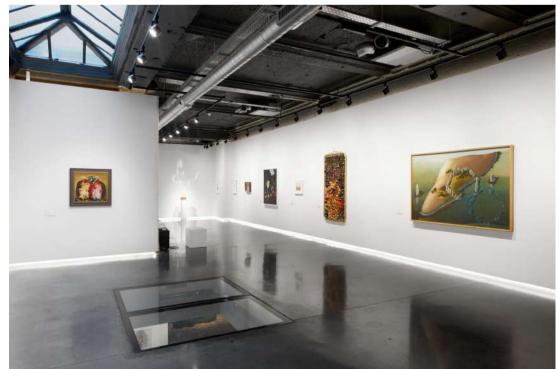
Group Show

The artists for this group show it yet to be confirmed.

Install examples from the previous group shows on the Ground Floor are below:









10 Year Anniversary

This special exhibition will bring together the artists who have had a long-standing connection with Unit London such as Seth Armstrong, Liz Marcus, Sasha Ferre, Jason Boyd Kinsella, Esther Janssen, Jeremy Olsen and Duncan Jago.

For the special 10-year anniversary the gallery will be hosting events spread out over 10 days, which will include printmaking classes, art mentorship and collector talks, NFT minting workshop, music and dance performances, and poetry reading.

UNITLONDON

October

3 October - 4 November

Ground Floor

Jason Boyd Kinsella

Lower Ground Floor

Group Show: An(Other) World



Jason Boyd Kinsella

Human Figures **Psychological** Personification **Portraiture** Geometric **Abstraction** Neo-cubism

Like so many artists, Jason's artistic journey is one rooted in pencil and paper. The appreciation of line and form that drawing instills in the Shapes artist remains a key factor of Jason's practice. He spends every morning sketching and, when a certain work stands out, he transfers that sketch to a computer. Here, the previously tentative marks of the sketch become the firm boundaries of digitally rendered shapes; colour is then added and manipulated, shapes are repositioned and reorientated until the essence of the figure Jason wishes to capture is faithfully represented. He then works from this reference using oil paints on canvas, reinstating the crucial human component that's considered tantamount to the artistic process. The results are largescale, beautiful portraits that are both conceptually enticing and technically accomplished.



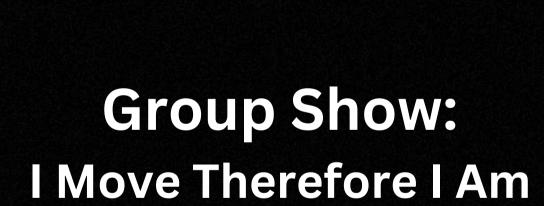






November





7 November - 9 December

Ground Floor

Miguel Payano

Lower Ground Floor

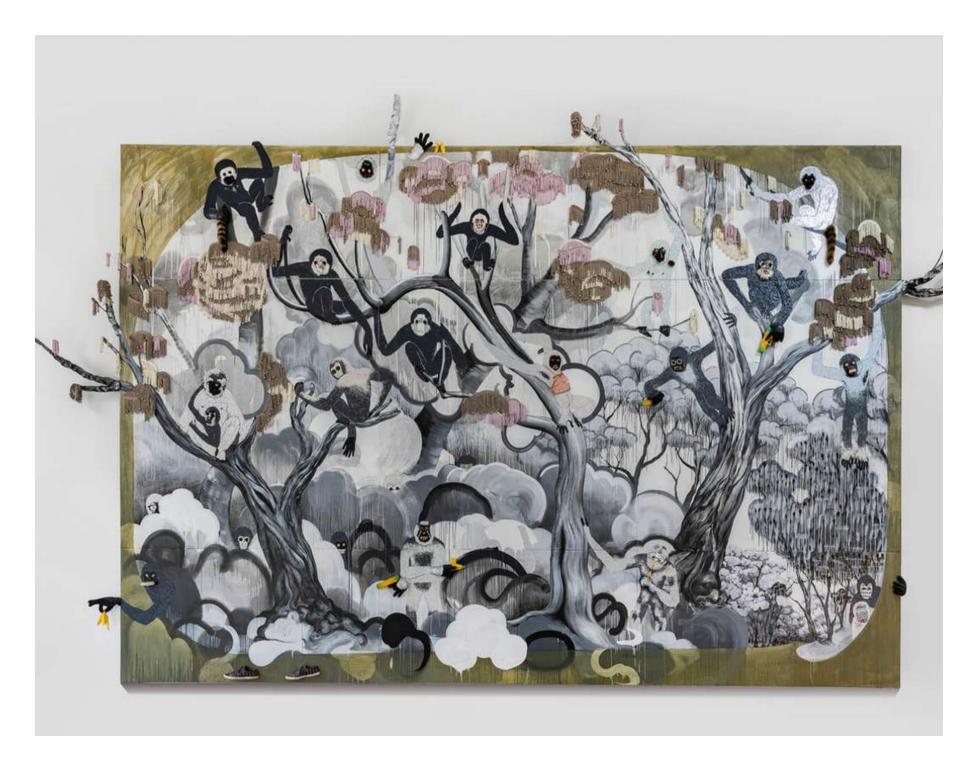
I Move Therefore I Am

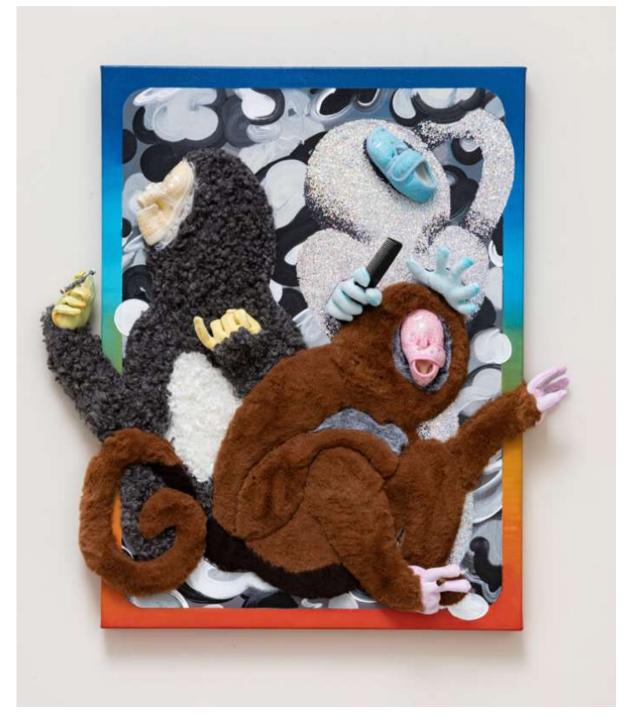
Miguel Payano

Multicultural
Sculptural
Sculptural
Everyday Objects
Storytelling
Humour
Class
Identity
Socialization
Institutional Artist
Diaspora & Identity

Miguel Angel Payano Jr is an Afro-Caribbean American artist working between Beijing and New York. With a visual vernacular that is informed by American, Caribbean and Chinese cultures, he creates works that oscillate between painting and sculpture that investigate class, identity formation/socialization and storytelling. His transcultural surrealist sensibilities bind aesthetics with humour and the grotesque. Until recently Payano had been primarily based in China, where he has lived for nearly two decades. In addition to exhibiting throughout China, he has also exhibited in Europe, Southeast Asia and the US. His works are in major collections in China and Italy.

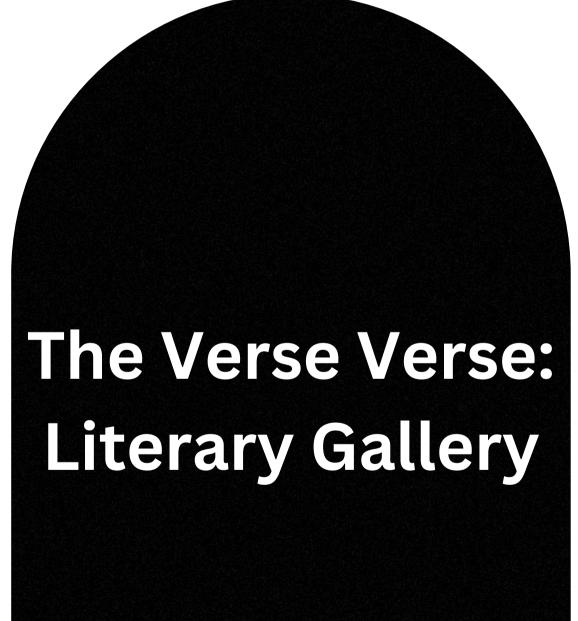






December - January





12 December - January 2024

Ground Floor

Ziping Wang

Lower Ground Floor

The Verse Verse

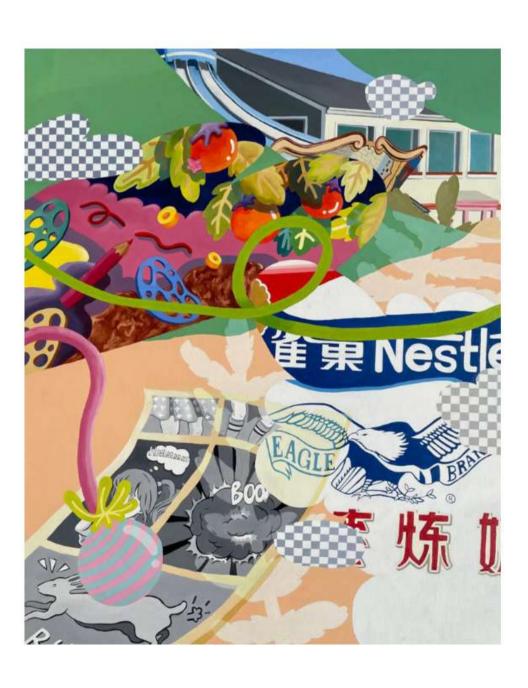
Ziping Wang

Ziping Wang was born in 1995 in Shenyang, China. Her distinctly fragmented and colour-saturated artworks seek to highlight the contemporary phenomenon of information overload while chiming with sensory memory triggers through depictions of children's toys, logos and food packaging. Ziping looks to uncover the inevitable links that lie between memory and present notions of identity – how do our memories of the past inform the idea we have of ourselves? The work also grapples with the concept of transcultural identity over time – how do our memories of childhood in one place inform our present-day actions in another?









The Verse Verse

The Verse Verse is a poetry NFT gallery where poem = work of art. The creative studio onboards acclaimed writers to WEB 3 to celebrate the rise of crypto-native poetry. Their mission is to help empower writers creatively and financially, and to educate collectors, curators, editors and publishers. They are part of a movement to build the future of literature on the blockchain.



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