

The Flesh of Paint

26.04.22 – 21.05.22

Private View: Tuesday 26th April 6:00 - 8:30

Noemi Conan · Alya Hatta · Olivia Harding · Lily Irwin · Yeonsu Ju · Alice Miller · Orla Murray · Shunshun Qi



Noemi Conan, *Escapade*, Mixed Media on Board, 120 x 100 cm

The Flesh of Paint assembles eight contemporary figurative painters working and living in London. Artists were selected for their distinct voices, striking approaches, and mastery of paint in the field of figurative expression. The exhibition explores how these individual artists translate their own experience and imagined realities into striking and thought-provoking paintings.

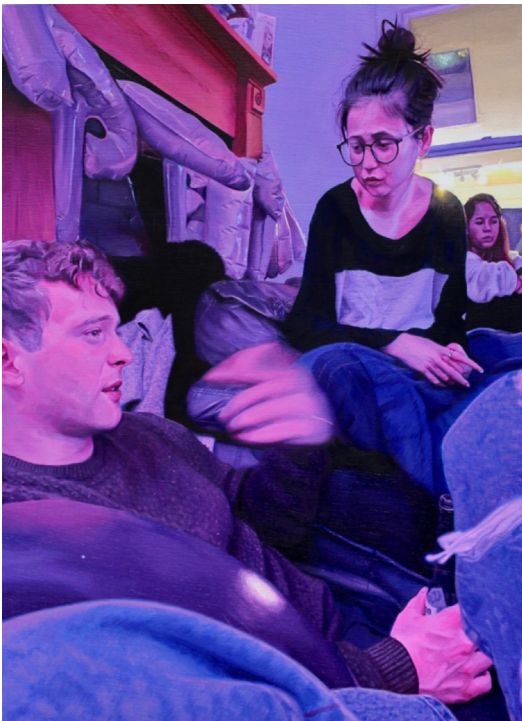
The exhibiting artists embrace the challenges and complexities of using the medium of paint to represent the figure, as well as celebrate its unique properties in creating emotional resonance and a tangible surface for the viewer. Painting is used as a threshold to broader concepts and a way to challenge notions of the figure.

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GALLERY

In this exhibition, a tension is presented between paint as a witness to reality, and the canvas as a space for an imagined world. Ideas from philosophers and aesthetic theorists Ranciere and Merleau-Ponty inform the exhibition, with the title 'The Flesh of Paint', after Ranciere's 1998 text 'The Flesh of Words'. In particular, Merleau-Ponty's notions of phenomenology and the consequent implications for experiencing works of art forming a framework for understanding the works on display.

The Flesh of Paint investigates how contemporary artists translate the human form, not only through processes of abstraction and imagination, but through their individual and unique painterly language.



Alice Miller, *Devotion*, Oil on Wood, 40 x 30 cm



Shunshun Qi, *Under the Water*, Oil on Canvas, 50 x 50 cm