

DISCOVERIES V

3rd February – 2nd March 2024



Fifth in the series of Discoveries exhibitions, this edition features work by four international artists: KV Duong, Nicole Morris, Constanza Pulit, and Adrian Ramos. The four artists were selected by gallery directors Francesca Fiumano and Andrés Clase, who continually seek to support and showcase fresh talent. The exhibition includes work in a variety of media including painting, textiles, latex, video, and print making.

KV Duong (Canadian/Vietnamese, b. 1980) is an ethnically Chinese artist with a transnational background—born in Vietnam, raised in Canada, and now living as a queer person in Britain. He paints, sculpts, performs, and creates installations, all centered around form and materiality in response to his life experiences.

Duong's current exploration focuses on latex, how it melds and converges with rice paper and various fabrics to create deliberate and unexpected marks. He paints the front and back, working through and working over the diverse surface to create an otherworldly substrate. These substrates sometimes resemble a tactile heirloom, akin to a piece of history passed down through generations, while at other times, they take on a performative, skin-like function, serving as a vessel into his intimate DNA.

KV Duong is currently pursuing an MA in Painting at the Royal College of Art and holds a Master's degree in Structural Engineering.

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Nicole Morris (British, b. 1986) Works across exhibition, learning and community contexts. Her practice uses textiles and film to explore methods of performance and collaboration. Themes of the body in relation to architectural and domestic spaces are translated into viewing systems made up of fabric screens that become surfaces and apertures for moving image to be projected upon.

Drawing parallels between processes of film and textiles, Morris's work translates one into the other in order to explore and blur the relationship between tactile and filmic space. An on-going exploration of analogue technologies and their relationship to the manual labour of the body is played out through these media.

Constanza Pulit (Argentinian, b. 1994) graduated with an MA in Printmaking from Camberwell College of Arts in 2021, in the same year she was awarded the East London Printmaking Prize.

Using photography as the starting point of her practice she creates images inspired by stories and fables she grew up with. Her work explores concepts of fantasy, mythology, and eroticism. She manipulates her photographs using a wide variety of printing processes to generate a dialogue between the image and its physicality.

The viewer is presented with active rather than passive figures. We are often addressed with an empowered gaze; are we in fact the ones being observed and evaluated from within the picture plane? Pulit creates dreamlike images that aim to intrigue and challenge us to face our own desires.

Constantly experimenting and pushing the boundaries of printmaking techniques, Pulit displays a confidence and mastery in her chosen medium unusual in such a young artist. Experimenting with colours, formats, and textures she not only pushes the boundaries of the tradition of printmaking but also adds to the vocabulary of this long-established art form.

Adrian Ramos (Portuguese, b. 1963) exists through his art. In his own words: "In my journey in life I have found my passion and love in art. My work gives me freedom, freedom to explore and express how I feel." It is this freedom that enables to viewer to explore his canvases unimpeded by dogmatic or prescriptive narratives.

Abstraction is often combined with figurative elements in Ramos' canvases. He works freely and intuitively, allowing the composition of his painting to evolve during its creation. A master in the manipulation of materials, Ramos is able to create works on canvas, board and leather using oil paints, acrylics and sometimes less conventional materials such as lacquer and enamel.

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Ramos invites us to enter his own surreal world, a place where line, colour and composition collide. Dreamlike scenes take us on unexpected journeys, allowing us the very same freedom that Ramos himself feels. A freedom to explore, experience and often lose ourselves, providing a respite from the day to day reality of the material world.

Notes:

Exhibition Dates:

Saturday 3rd February – Saturday 2nd March

Gallery opening Hours:

Tuesday – Friday 11am – 6pm

Saturday – 12 noon – 4pm

Gallery Family Day

Saturday 24th February 2024

12 noon – 3pm

Family Saturdays are aimed at families with children aged between 4-14 years. Younger children are of course welcome, but we do ask that they be supervised by an adult. These are free sessions but please do contact the gallery to book a slot.

Location:

Fiumano Clase, 40-41 Pall Mall, 1st Floor, London SW1Y 5JG

www.fiumanoclase.com

About Fiumano Clase:

Five years after its formation the gallery relocated to Pall Mall in central London. Now in the seventh year, the central ethos of Fiumano Clase remains firmly committed to working collaboratively with artists, giving them the time, space, and opportunity to develop their artistic practice unhindered by commercial pressures. The gallery represents a number of artists internationally, embracing a range of different practices from painting and sculpture to photography, installation, video and performance art. Prior to the formation of Fiumano Clase, in 2017, Francesca Fiumano was the owner of Fiumano Fine Art and Andrés Clase was the owner of Orion Contemporary.