

MARLEY FREEMAN: CALIFORNIENNE

February 15 – March 31, 2018

Parker Gallery is pleased to present *Californienne*, a solo exhibition of recent paintings by Marley Freeman. The exhibition includes [NUMBER] works in oil and acrylic installed in a scattered arrangement throughout the upstairs exhibition space. The title of the exhibition refers to a homecoming of sorts, described in a foreign tongue from afar. This is Freeman's first solo exhibition in Southern California, where she grew up.

Marley Freeman spent a good portion of her childhood visiting antique shows with her father, an antique textile dealer. Her first job entailed organizing a design library for a textile mill stretching back five generations, a task she describes as an excellent education in looking. When Freeman left textiles to focus full-time on painting she had cultivated a unique perspective toward image-making.

There is an implicit architecture to the paintings: built of layers separated by varying degrees of opacity and luster, the eye moves through tunnels of light and passages of color brushed and pooled. The tones are so specific they seem reminiscent to the viewer discovering her palette for the first time.

She guides her work towards a particular feeling when awkwardly fitted shapes appear as a total apparition. Her paintings enjoy an intimate logic, as if they have come to some secret understanding.

While the works are mostly abstract, the imagery is familiar enough to relate to. Most have been painted since Freeman relocated to rural Maine; it is intriguing to wonder what might be drawn from life in compositions bathed with natural light.

Marley Freeman (b. 1981 in Boston, MA, lives and works in Down East, ME). Select solo exhibitions include *Downstairs Projects*, Brooklyn, NY (2017), *Never Give a Sword to a Man Who Can't Dance*, PSM, Berlin, Germany (2017), *Postcards for Porcino*, organized by David Horvitz, Chert/Porcino, Berlin, Germany (2016), *Decision 2015 (I Change)*, Cleopatra's, Brooklyn, NY (2015) and *Syntagma: Painting as Event*, Triangle Art Association, Brooklyn, NY (2014). Select group exhibitions include *Monday is a Day Between Sunday and Tuesday*, Tanya Leighton Gallery, Berlin, Germany (2017), *What Ever Moves Between Us Also Moves the World in General*, Murray Guy, New York, NY (2017), *Onion by the Ocean*, Underdonk, Brooklyn, NY (2017), *MaMa Cubicle*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY (2015), *Ceramic Club Cash & Carry*, White Columns, New York, NY (2015) and *Significant Ordinaries*, California State University Art Museum, Long Beach, CA (2012).