

Duarte Sequeira

Louis Morlæ

All Watched Over by Emissaries of Loving Grace

21 January — 4 March 2023

Duarte Sequeira, Warehouse

Duarte Sequeira is pleased to announce *All Watched Over by Emissaries of Loving Grace*, the first solo exhibition of London based artist Louis Morlæ in Portugal.

The exhibition explores the conditions of spiritual awakening through the lens of digital technology. Reimagining the gallery as a waystation; a temple for ritual engagement enacted through sculptural gestures - each object in the space becomes a shrine for contemplation and self-reflection. Through this idea of digital transcendence, the new body of work, encompassing sculpture, installation and video, functions as a simulation in which objects balance, inhabit, and interact with both the physical and digital worlds.

“All Watched Over by Machines of Loving Grace”, Richard Brautigan’s 1967 poem which inspired the exhibition title, presents a technological utopia in which machines seemingly merge with nature to improve the lives of humans.

For Morlæ, technology is a tool to enable new forms: 3D printing makes rapid prototyping a reality and allows for the production of new objects, physically incorporating elements that would otherwise be impossible. In an attempt to create imaginary spaces beyond individual realities and to simulate bodily experiences, Morlæ creates casts of sculptural surrogates in a human-like form, engaging with ideas of the lively cyborg presented in Donna Haraway’s “A Manifesto for Cyborgs”. This process raises questions about the objects that surround us, the many forms that technology can take, and how they might affect its function and purpose. These forms await their activation through Morlæ’s film, *Ekstasia and 6 Last Things: Part One*, accompanied by an original soundtrack from Charlie Dobney.