

The Painting Show

Gallery Artbeat presents 'The Painting Show' featuring works by eleven Georgian and international painters.

Participating artists are: Tiago Carneiro da Cunha, Brian DeGraw, Mari Eastman, Mariam Guledani, David Horváth, Tamo Jugeli, Dominique Knowles, Elene Melikidze, Tornike Robakidze, Guram Shavdia, Elene Shatberashvili.

The show puts main emphasis on painting, as a means to expand human existential-mental substance and explores painting as a self-sustained system, which uses color, texture, light, and movement to construct its linguistic body. But also the show offers to the viewer an opportunity to see works by 11 unique artists, whose main medium for self-expression is painting, which also serves as their common ground.

An artist communicates through colors what others express with words. Color, as an aesthetic element, has been an integral part of our culture for centuries. This method of expression predates any living or forgotten form of writing. This medium possesses a unique ability to transcend linguistic boundaries and offers alternative modes of communication. While language relies on words and their meanings, painting serves as a universal language that directly engages the viewer and thus can be seen as a medium that expands human communication. While language establishes the boundaries of our phenomenological world, formal systems with limited signifiers might not be fully meeting human needs. Writing in color can be viewed as an attempt to transcend formal language, which often relies on symbolic representations and which broadens our cognitive horizons through its expressive possibilities. The show is a proposition to the viewer to gaze at the paintings, observe the experience of their gaze and reflect on the opportunities that might arise be they directed to the outside or to the inside world of the viewers themselves.

Tiago Carneiro da Cunha's oeuvre includes paintings and sculptures situated between the serious and the comic, between gestural spontaneity and figurative composition. Painting with oil or employing the glazed surfaces of his sculptures, Carneiro da Cunha produces figures and characters that satirize or reimagine Brazilian stereotypes. His sculptures remind us of souvenirs, and his paintings remit to magazine icons or comic-book characters. The artist's treatment, which involves wax or glaze to imply melting, dislodges these figures from the banal to the eerie.

Solo and group exhibitions:

2022 - Green Galaxy, Misako & Rosen, Tokyo, Japan; 2019 - Crepúsculo, Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel, São Paulo, Brazil and 2016 - Trânsito dos infernos, Galeria Fortes Vilaça, São Paulo, Brazil. He has also participated in the group shows: 2021 - Estado Bruto, MAM – Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; 2020 - Gravedad y Orbita, Tenerife Espacio de las Artes, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain and 2019 - Perdona que no te crea, Carpintaria, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The artist has works in important public collections, such as MAM – Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; MAR – Museu de Arte do Rio, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Saatchi Collection, London, UK and SFMoMA, San Francisco, USA.

Brian DeGraw is a multidisciplinary self-taught artist who lives and works in New York City. His work tends to live ambiguously between the realms of realism, cosmic abstraction, and graphically driven composition. While frequently using portraiture as a root element, his work refuses to be pinned down solely as such. Subjects are often deconstructed, reconstructed, multiplied, or repositioned welcoming in additional layers of color, pattern, and lines that give life to new figuration, suggesting alternate worlds within worlds. These layers can be rendered in a variety of hands. A drawing or painting can move freely between various modes of mark making simultaneously reflecting that of an untrained child and an accomplished draftsman. While often focused on

painting and works on paper DeGraw remains devoted to embracing the moment by using whatever medium he sees fit, often producing work that includes the sculptural, performative, musical, filmic, and ritualistic. In addition to having exhibited in various galleries and institutions throughout the world for the past 20 years he has also toured the globe since 2000 with his experimental music group Gang Gang Dance (of which he is the founding member) and has recently begun scoring films, most notably for 3 short films directed by Chloe Sevigny and for the feature length documentary on his friend the artist Dash Snow ('Moments Like This Never Last' dir. Cheryl Dunn). He is currently represented by James Fuentes in New York.

Solo and group exhibitions:

2022 - GAMMA, James Fuentes, New York, NY; 2019 - Solarium Demos, Wish-Less, Tokyo, Japan, Scrtach Acid Ketosis, Real Estate Fine Art, Brooklyn NY 2015 - Solo Presentation at Allen & Eldridge, New York NY; 2011 As The World Burns, James Fuentes, New York NY 2008 - Solo Exhibition, Le Confort Moderne, Poitiers, France 2007 -Behead the Genre, James Fuentes, New York NY; 2004 - Solo Exhibition, Dazed Gallery, London UK; 2002 - Danger Came Smiling, The Annex/Aaron Rose, Los Angeles CA, Morton Street Partners, New York NY; Twenty One Humors, Pace Gallery, New York NY 2021 - Its Not What You Think It Is, Tramps, New York NY; New Wave Cosmos, Wish-Less, Tokyo, Japan; 2020 - Travelers Perspective, Colossal Youth Exhibitions, Brooklyn NY; 2019 - Frieze New York, New York NY.

Mari Eastman holds an MFA from the Art Institute of Chicago. Eastman lives and works in Chicago. She has exhibited at the Hammer Museum (Los Angeles), Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, The Museum of Contemporary Art (Los Angeles), The Orange County Museum of Art (Newport Beach), Cherry and Martin Gallery (Los Angeles), Victoria Miro (London), Colette (Paris), Barbara Gladstone Gallery (New York), the Berkeley Museum of Art, and numerous other venues. Her work has been included in such publications as Modern Painters, The Los Angeles Times, The New York Times, Flash Art, The New Yorker, and on artforum.com. Eastman lives and works in Chicago.

Mariam Guledani is a young artist born and raised in Tbilisi, Georgia. Currently, she is studying visual arts at the Städelschule in Germany.

From an early age, Mariam discovered a passion for art, particularly painting. Painting became a journey of self-discovery and an exploration of his surroundings. After completing school, he began working in a studio, which radically transformed his artistic process. His mentor is Gia Edzgvradze, whose guidance played a significant role in his creative development. In addition to painting, he experiments with various mediums, including sculpture, video, and photography.

She actively engages in Georgia's developing art scene, collaborating with fellow artists from the younger generation such as Lisa Kvantaliani, Tama Kvantalian, Tamo Jugheli, and many others. These featured artists were members of an artistic collective known as Room 4, which served as a platform

for emerging artists to share their perspectives and expand their horizons.

David Horváth is a Romanian artist who was born in 1998 and currently resides and works in Baia Mare, Romania. Horváth completed his formal education at the University of Arts and Design in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. In 2020, he obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree in Painting, followed by his Master of Fine Arts degree in Painting in 2022.

Solo and group exhibitions:

2023 - Q Gallery, Hong Kong (upcoming); 2022 - Turquoise Routine, Ciaccia Levi, Paris; Art Athina, Feature sector, Ciaccia Levi, Athens; 2023 - David Horváth & Andy Warhol, Marc Jancou Contemporary, hosted by the Art Kiosk, Rougemont, Switzerland (upcoming) Drawing Now fair, Paris, Ciaccia Levi; 2022 - Enivrez-vous (Get Drunk), group show, Praz-Delavallade, Paris; 2021 - Begin at the beginning, Art Safe, Bucharest What makes me, Casa Matei, Cluj-Napoca Light clarity avocado salad in the morning, Jecza Gallery, Timisoara.

Tamo Jugeli is a young, Georgian emerging self-taught artist born in 1994. During 2013-2017 she studied Journalism at David Aghmashenebeli University of Georgia and only started painting after. Soon she became mentored by internationally renowned artist and writer, Gia Edzveradze.

Paintings of Tamo Jugeli carry traces of unconscious impulses by its linear as well as color factors. An intuitive flow composed of simple elements of figures, colors and forms create complex and dynamic networks, which sometimes are transformed into shapes and sometimes are broken into abstractive signs. Each element stands on the frontier of a figurative or a plane deconstruction. Visual signs establish sculptural, fluid, spatial dimensions and attain their autonomy. We are witnesses to a game between transgression and sublimation, between the rational and the irrational.

Artworks, which have their own scale, space and limitless desire to break the boundaries can easily be read as topographic maps of brisk and irrational motion.

Solo and group exhibitions:

2023 - 'Lightly', Polina Berlin Gallery, New York, USA; 'Beautiful, Vivid, Self-contained', Hill Art Foundation, New York, USA; 2022 - NADA Miami Art Fair, Miami, USA; Art Athina Art Fair, Athens, Greece; 'Solitaire', Polina Berlin Gallery, New York, USA; 'Random Order', Gallery Artbeat, Tbilisi, Georgia; 2021 - NADA Miami Art Fair, Miami, USA; Art Cologne Art Fair, Cologne, Germany; 'Digital Natives', TBC Concept, Tbilisi, Georgia; 'Limen', Svaneti Museum of History and Ethnography, Mestia, Georgia; 2020 - Art Cologne Art Fair, Cologne Germany; 'Unnamed 2020', Gallery Artbeat, Tbilisi, Georgia; 2019 - NADA Miami Art Fair, Miami, USA; The Institut für Alles Mögliche, artist residency, Berlin, Germany; 2019 - Handler - John Riepenhoff, Gallery ArtBeat, Tbilisi, Georgia; 2019 - Tbilisi Art Fair 2019, Tbilisi, Georgia; 2019 - 'You Know What?! I don't Have Good Feeling about Cakes Around Here', Gallery Artbeat, Tbilisi, Georgia; 2018 - Art-Villa Garikula, artist residency, Garikula, Georgia; Archetypes, Art Up - Street Gallery, Batumi, Georgia.

Dominique Knowles (Bahamian, b. 1996) lives & works in Chicago, IL. Knowles received both his MFA in Painting as a New Artist Society Award scholar in 2020 & BFA in 2017 from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Solo and group exhibitions:

Goldfinch Projects (Chicago, IL); The Green Gallery East (Milwaukee, WI) and The National Art Gallery of The Bahamas (Nassau, Bahamas). Knowles has had group exhibitions at Emanuel Layr (Vienna, Austria) hosted by Sperling (Munich, Germany) Popop Studios (Nassau, Bahamas), The Bahamas International Film Festival (Nassau, Bahamas), The Trinidad and Tobago Film Festival, Medulla Gallery (Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago), 14°N 61°W (Martinique), HilgerBROTKunsthalle (Vienna, Austria), Halle 14 (Leipzig, Germany), Elmhurst Art Museum (Elmhurst, Illinois), Andrew Rafacz (Chicago, IL), The Packing Plant (Nashville, TN) and Julius Caesar (Chicago, IL). Knowles has participated in residencies at The Suburban (Milwaukee, WI) & Liquid Courage Gallery (Nassau, Bahamas).

Elene Melikidze is a Georgian artist born in 1999 who lives & works in Tbilisi, Georgia. She started painting since childhood in various media. Her other profession is film critic. The artist mainly works with painting & graphics. Elene has participated in several group exhibitions. The source of her work is based on her worldview and subconscious feelings.

Tornike Robakidze was born in 1995, in Tbilisi. He studied on the faculty of Architecture at the Georgian Technical University between 2013 – 2017. Before continuing his Master studies at the State Academy of Arts in Tbilisi, Faculty of Fine Arts, Tbilisi, Georgia until 2019. The works of Tornike Robakidze seem to stand between dream and reality. However, in compositions saturated with metaphors and symbols, everything comes from the details of real, everyday life.

Recent exhibitions include Gallery, Lo Brutto Stahl, Paris, France Gallery 4710, Tbilisi, Georgia, Fortnight institute Gallery, New York, US.

Guram Shavdia was born in 1988 in Tbilisi, Georgia. Between 2003-2007 he attended the Iakob Nikoladze Art School in his hometown. He continued his studies at Dusseldorf Academy of Fine Arts under the guidance of Marcus Lupertz and Andreas Schulze.

He graduated from the academy with distinction (Meisterschüler) in 2014, receiving his MA diploma (Akademiebrief). While living in Germany, he has held 3 solo and numerous group exhibitions.

Guram's main focus is painting. He works on paper and canvas using mixed technique. His main sources of inspiration are historical references which he represents in the form of archetypes and cultural symbols that often combine elements of figuration and abstraction. Since 2020 has been living and working in Tbilisi.

As the esteemed Georgian visual artist, Gia Edzgeradze put it: Guram Shavdia's art is intricately woven with the essence of reconceptualizing historical visual and cultural signs, with the noble purpose of establishing the profound openness of the absurd. Since 2020 he lives and works in Tbilisi.

Elene Shatberashvili is a Georgian painter currently based in Paris. She graduated from Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Art de Paris in 2019. She was in a four month post diploma residency program ASA in Hamburg (November 2020-march 2021), as part of collaboration between Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Art de Paris and HFBK. Since, she has been living and working between Paris and Tbilisi.

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Elene's work has been shown at the gallery Aigen-Art in Leipzig, at Tajan in Paris, at the gallery Perrotin, at MO.CO. museum in Montpellier, as well as in the shows organized by the Emerige Prize in 2020. She started collaborating with GB Agency with a duo show in February 2020 and has since participated in several group projects with them.

The self-portraits as well as subjects linked to Georgia often appear in Elene's work. Her figurative paintings remain experimental and seek to enlarge its limits. Her realistic paintings are often followed by more abstract and geometric forms. This dynamic lets the artist explore not only plastic and pictorial language, but also different subject matters.

Opening: 21 July, 17:00-20:00

21 July - 3 September, 2023

Address: P. Ingorokva street 14, Tbilisi

Gallery is open from Tuesday till Sunday, 11:00-19:00