

Foxy Production
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PETRA CORTRIGHT

human sheep brain “alice in wonderland” Americana

8 September 2017 to 8 October 2017
Gallery hours: Wed - Sun, 11-6 PM

Foxy Production is pleased to announce "human sheep brain “alice in wonderland” Americana", Petra Cortright's second solo exhibition at the gallery. Cortright presents a new series of large digital paintings on aluminum and linen, including one triptych. In muted tones, her abstracted landscapes portray aquatic gardens, buffeted by wind, with dark clouds hovering overhead. The artist subtly animates her autumnal scenes with marks; brushstrokes, and fields of black, blue, and gray.

While Cortright's new works channel a number of Modernist painting styles, their production has most in common with Action Painting. She works intuitively, often at speed, combining digital painting tools with images and textures sourced from the Internet. Her works' uncanny resemblance to oil painting is undercut by their innate connection to the electronic screen and the digital world it projects.

With their subdued, seasonal moods, they may reflect the broader social climate we are navigating today, although the Fluxus-like elements of chance and improvisation in Cortright's practice preclude them proposing any singular narrative. Cortright has said: "I always try to introduce a somewhat random process into my work. Sometimes I'll insert lines of poetry into searches on Google images. I try to put weird words together to try and bring up things I didn't know I was looking for."*

Petra Cortright (Santa Barbara, CA, 1986) lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. She has studied fine art at Parsons The School of Design, New York, NY (2008), and the California College of the Arts, San Francisco, CA (2004).

Selected exhibitions include: the “4th Ural Industrial Biennial of Contemporary Art,” Ekaterinburg and other cities of the Ural region, Russia; “RUNNING NEO-GEO GAMES UNDER MAME,” City Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand (solo) (both 2017); “Electronic Superhighway,” Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK; “Shift, Stretch, Expand: Everyday Transformations,” Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara, CA (both 2016); “The Metabolic Age,” MALBA, Buenos Aires, Argentina; “On YouTube. Kunst und Playlists aus 10 Jahren,” Kunsthaus Langenthal, Switzerland; “Im Inneren der Stadt,” Künstlerhaus Bremen, Germany; “NIKI, LUCY, LOLA, VIOLA,” Depart Foundation, Los Angeles, CA (solo) (all 2015); “Art Post-Internet,” Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China (2014); Frieze Film, Frieze London, UK, and the 12th Biennale de Lyon, France (both 2013.)

*From: McKinnon, Julian. “Bring me the weird.” artnews NEW ZEALAND. Spring 2017: 82-85.

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