

Mrs.

ALEXANDRA BARTH
Soft Corners

November 4 - January 6, 2023

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November 4, 2023 – January 6, 2024

Opening Reception: Saturday, November 4, 4 - 7pm

Mrs. is thrilled to present *Soft Corners*, Slovakian painter Alexandra Barth's first solo exhibition with the gallery. With the gentle touch of airbrush on canvas, the artist renders hard objects softly, their intention appearing more clear as the gaze lingers. She captures the memory of details in a particular room using flat, soft color and a nuanced range of white. Light casts heavy shadows, angular objects converge and are personified in her scenes which evoke the quality of film stills.

Barth's works document objects, human intervention and absence. Each painting is initiated with a photograph captured by the artist. She transforms these images by creating a painting smaller in scale, only to enlarge and apply this very same imagery to a grander canvas. The precision of her hand in replicating these compositions at both scales serves as a form of photographic duplication – in this way, Barth's paintings function similar to editions, the petite works carrying as much weight as the more sizable ones.

Barth, who grew up in Slovakia in the 1990s within the starkness of Soviet bloc architecture, hones in on objects that offer a sense of minimalism and uniformity, familiar from childhood memory. It is through this lens that she encounters other design traditions and class signifiers – Venetian moldings, fabrics, and wardrobes of her current residence in Sanguinetto, Italy– which allows Barth's paintings to fuse time and geography. They remain rooted in the present while looking back, holding, as poet Jane Hirschfield calls it, “the vast reach of all that is not, and still something is.”

In works like *Hidden Corner* and *Moulded Cabinets*, we are reminded of the relationship between the ornamentation of objects and architecture. Objects and ornamentation carry a history of making, of use, of the societal undertones of a particular place. The specificity of the surfaces the artist depicts – marble tile, wardrobe mirror, striped drapery, silk bathrobe – suggests the character of recent inhabitants, and offers a curiosity about someone who came before. Yet these spaces present an anonymity, like hotel rooms wiped clean between guests.

From this emotional perspective, Barth takes an unfinished scene and recalls a feeling of the action, surrounding those objects within space—a *Pile of Frames*, left unhung, *The Red Silk Sleeve*, clipped by a wardrobe, unintentionally perhaps. *A Door with a Copper Handle* finds the viewer in a familiar moment of pause, an inhale before the next push. Shadows, reflections, and idiosyncrasies of the particular details and spaces which the artist currently occupies are pregnant with the stories and choices of those who came before. These moments are plentiful yet often unnoticed as we walk through our days. Barth, our conduit, translates the complexity of multiple overlapping moments, in all their ghostly beauty.

Mrs.

Alexandra Barth, *Soft Corners* will be on view at Mrs., 60-40 56th Dr., Maspeth, Queens, NY 11378 through January 4, 2024. For more information please contact hello@mrsgallery.com.

Alexandra Barth received her degree from the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava in 2013. A selection of solo exhibitions have been held at Phoinix and Hotdock Project Space, Bratislava; Urban Gallery, Pescara; and Chris Sharp Gallery, Los Angeles. Recent group exhibitions include Photoport, The Elevator, Temporary Parapet, MDŽ, and White&Weiss, in Bratislava, SK. Additionally, in 2023 she exhibited at Felix Art Fair and KIAF Seoul with Mrs. This is her first exhibition with the gallery.

Mrs.



Alexandra Barth
The Red Silk Sleeve, 2023
Acrylic on Canvas
31 1/2 x 23 5/8 inches
80 x 60 cm
(AB_037)

Mrs.



Alexandra Barth

Soft Corner, 2023

Acrylic on Canvas

15 3/4 x 11 3/4 inches

40 x 30 cm

16 3/4 x 12 7/8 inches (framed)

42.5 x 32.7 cm (framed)

(AB_036)

Mrs.



Alexandra Barth
Restaurant Curtain, 2023
Acrylic on Canvas
47 1/4 x 35 3/8 inches
120 x 90 cm
(AB_035)

Mrs.



Alexandra Barth

Restaurant Curtain, 2023

Acrylic on Canvas

15 3/4 x 11 3/4 inches

40 x 30 cm

16 3/4 x 12 7/8 inches (framed)

42.5 x 32.7 cm (framed)

(AB_034)

Mrs.



Alexandra Barth

Pile of Frames, 2023

Acrylic on Canvas

15 3/4 x 11 3/4 inches

40 x 30 cm

16 3/4 x 12 7/8 inches (framed)

42.5 x 32.7 cm (framed)

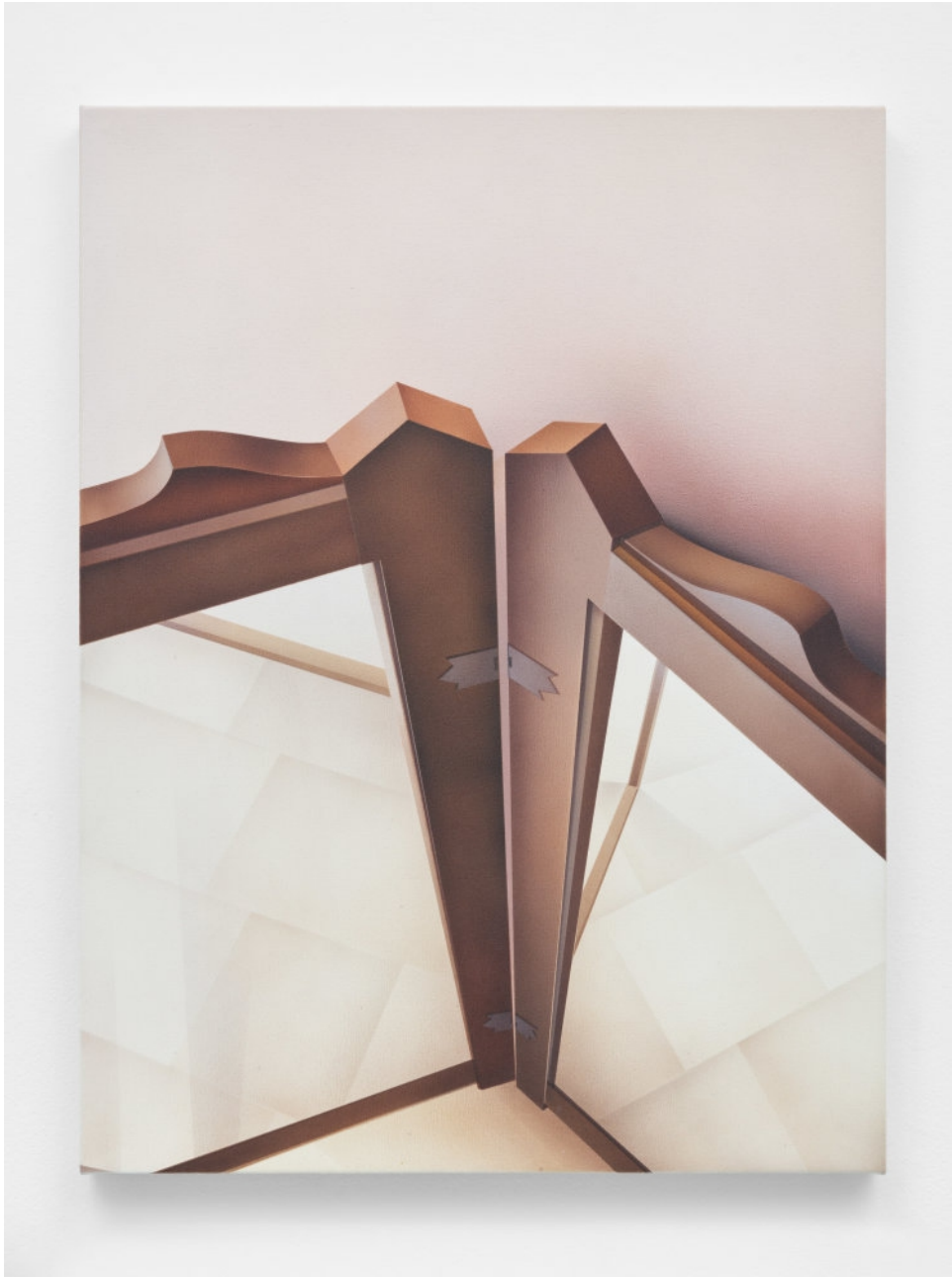
(AB_033)

Mrs.



Alexandra Barth
Pile of Frames, 2023
Acrylic on Canvas
63 x 47 1/4 inches
160 x 120 cm
(AB_032)

Mrs.



Alexandra Barth
Paravan Mirror, 2023
Acrylic on Canvas
31 1/2 x 23 5/8 inches
80 x 60 cm
(AB_031)

Mrs.



Alexandra Barth
Moulded Cabinets, 2023
Acrylic on Canvas
63 x 47 1/4 inches
160 x 120 cm
(AB_030)

Mrs.



Alexandra Barth

Moulded Cabinets, 2023

Acrylic on Canvas

15 3/4 x 11 3/4 inches

40 x 30 cm

16 3/4 x 12 7/8 inches (framed)

42.5 x 32.7 cm (framed)

(AB_029)

Mrs.



Alexandra Barth

A Door with a Copper Handle, 2023

Acrylic on Canvas

47 1/4 x 35 3/8 inches

120 x 90 cm

(AB_028)

Mrs.



Alexandra Barth

A Door with a Copper Handle, 2023

Acrylic on Canvas

11 3/4 x 9 1/2 inches

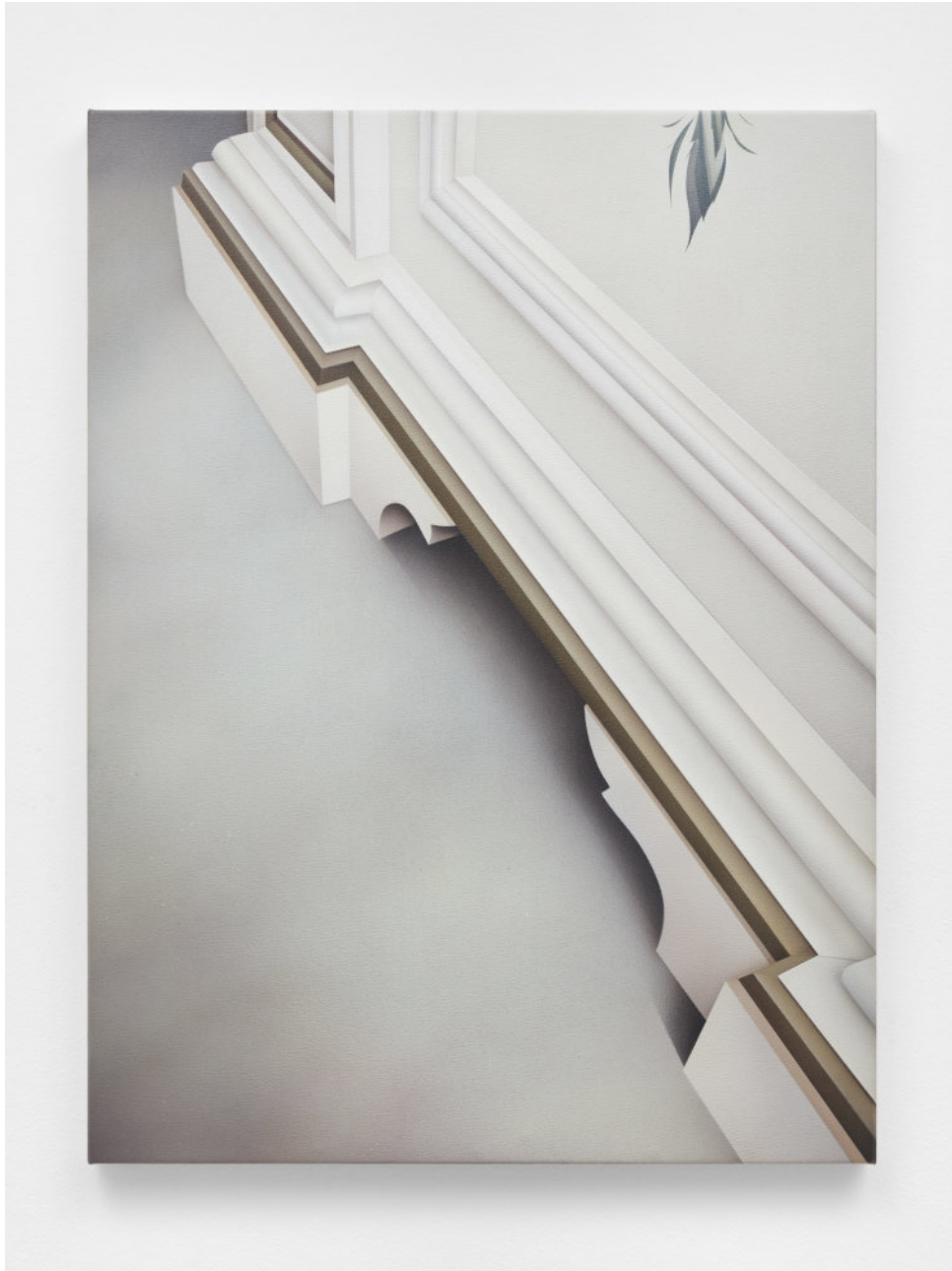
30 x 24 cm

12 7/8 x 10 1/4 inches (framed)

32.7 x 26 cm (framed)

(AB_027)

Mrs.



Alexandra Barth

A Cabinet with Two Corbels, 2023

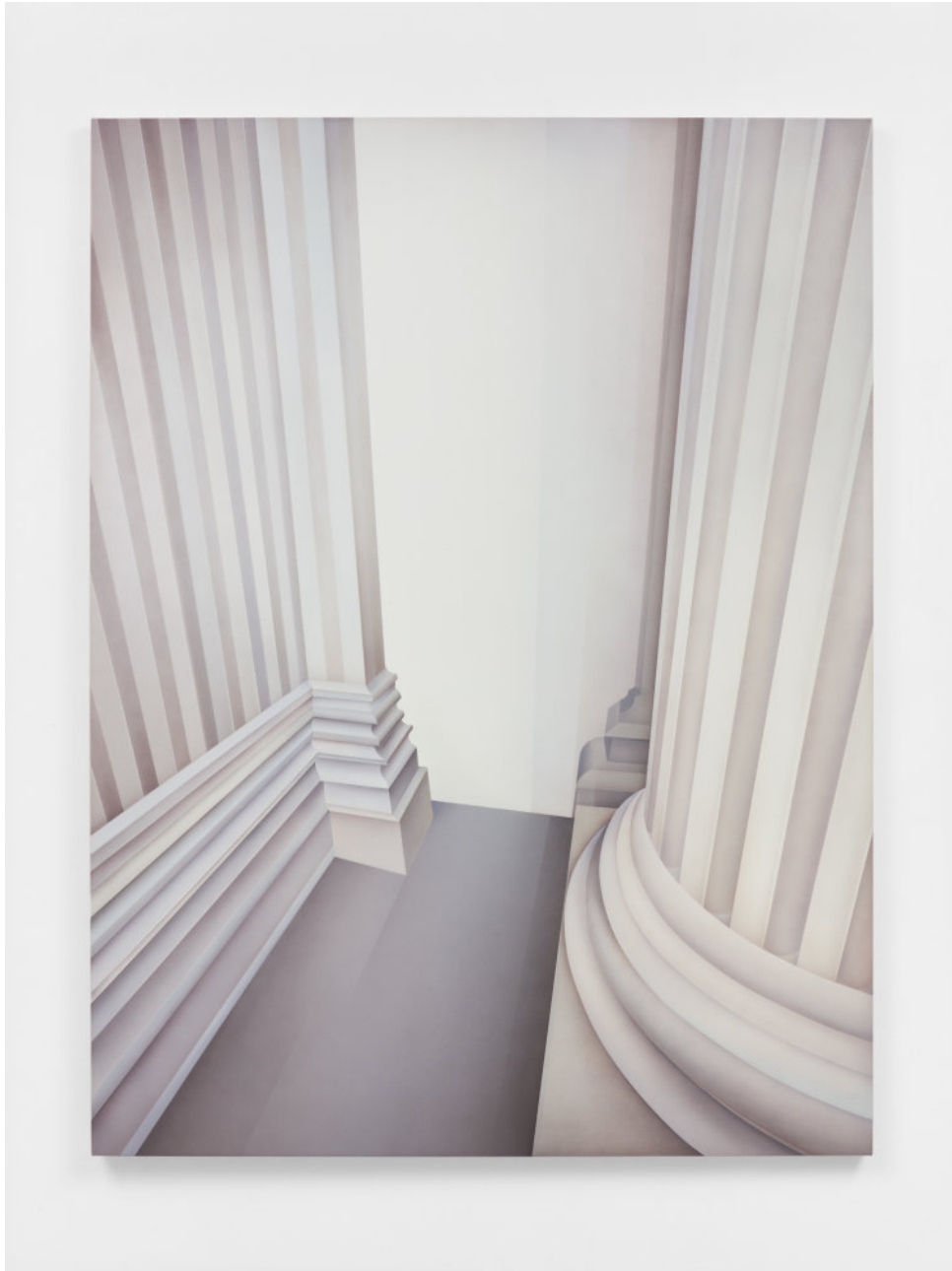
Acrylic on Canvas

31 1/2 x 23 5/8 inches

80 x 60 cm

(AB_026)

Mrs.



Alexandra Barth
Hidden Corner, 2023
Acrylic on Canvas
63 x 47 1/4 inches
160 x 120 cm
(AB_025)

Mrs.



Alexandra Barth

Window Frame, 2023

Acrylic on Canvas

15 3/4 x 11 3/4 inches

40 x 29.8 cm

16 3/4 x 12 7/8 inches (framed)

42.5 x 32.7 cm (framed)

(AB_038)

Mrs.

ALEXANDRA BARTH

Lives and works in Zohor, Slovakia and Sanguinetto, Italy.

Education

2013 MA, Academy of Fine Arts and Design, Bratislava, Slovakia

Solo Exhibitions

2023 *Soft Corners*, Mrs., Maspeth, NY

Necessity of Artifice, Photoport, Bratislava, Slovakia

2022 *The door hinge*, A SUD, Pescara, Italy

Mechanical bath, Stone Projects, Prague, Czech Republic

2021 *Scenography*, Chris Sharp, Los Angeles, CA

Meno Domu, Photoport, Bratislava, Slovakia

2020 *Configurations of the banal (in a dramatic lighting)*, Phoinix, Bratislava, Slovakia

The Elevator, Fondazione Zimei c/o Urban gallery, Pescara, Italy

2019 *Evidence of Absence*, Hotdock project space, Bratislava, Slovakia

2018 *Pozoruhodnosti*, Žumpa, Bratislava, Slovakia

Stav vecí, Kunstverein, Bratislava, Slovakia

2017 *Pôvodny stav*, Temporary Parapet, Bratislava, Slovakia

Poriadok vecí, Kunstverein, Bratislava, Slovakia

2015 *Pokoj*, PRFR studios, Bratislava, Slovakia

Selected Group Exhibitions

2023 *Kiaf SEOUL*, Mrs., Seoul, Korea

On longing (Or, Modern Objects volume II), Huxley-Parlour, London, U.K.

2022 *High Humanity*, Jack Siebert projects, Paris, France

Iba, iba jednu, Photoport, Bratislava, Slovakia

Mrs.

- The Bright Side of the Moon*, Annarumma, Naples, Italy
- 2021 *The dreams in which I'm ___ are the best I've ever had*, Mauve, Vienna, Austria
- 2020 *Like a picture*, Photoport, Bratislava, Slovakia
- 2019 *The Elevator*, Temporary Parapet, Bratislava, Slovakia
- 2017 *MDŽ*, White&Weiss, Bratislava, Slovakia
- 2016 *Kunstverein Selection 2016*, PRFR studios, Bratislava, Slovakia
- Jej svet*, OGV, Jihlaa, Czech Republic
- 2014 *Diversity required*, Slovak National Gallery, Bratislava, Slovakia
- 2013 *Master's diploma work*, House of Arts, Bratislava, Slovakia
- 2010 *Art now*, Kasárne/Kulturpark, Košice, Slovakia

Selected Press

- 2023 Dockery, Regan, *A Streak of Our Past: A Review of "Meteor" at Document*, New City Art, June 30, 2023.
- Massari, Giorgia, *The best we saw at Miart 2023*, Collateral, April 14, 2023.
- 2022 Shawn Ghassemitari, *Art Collector Jack Siebert Presents 'High Humanity.'* Hypebeast, October 20, 2022.
- Devid Gualandris, *From Art-o-rama Marseilles to Luma Arles: The Many Testaments of Southern France's Capacity to Dream Big*, Ignant, September 7, 2022.
- 2021 *Alexandra Barth at Chris Sharp Gallery*, Art Viewer, July 2, 2021.