

VITRINE



Cecilia Fiona, 'Weaving time, spinning spine', 2023. Rabbit skin glue and pigments on canvas. 150 x 200 cm. Photographer: Kavian Borhani.

Press Release

Cecilia Fiona

Weaving time, spinning spine

19 January - 9 March 2024

Preview: Thursday 18 January 2024, 6-8.30pm (performance at 6pm and 8pm approx 15 mins. each)

VITRINE, Fitzrovia. Wed - Sat, 12-6pm.

VITRINE is pleased to announce Danish artist Cecilia Fiona's first solo exhibition at the gallery which presents a new body of paintings, sculpture and performance exploring the existential mysteries of life.

Fiona's unique technique for painting uses rabbit skin glue mixed with handmade and natural pigments, applied to the canvas with a small, thin brush. This meticulousness means that her work is full of detailed, complex compositions, blending figures and landscapes into one another creating a state of flow and tumult on the canvas dissolving the boundaries between bodies and the world.

Fiona's new series of paintings create dreamlike landscapes that depict androgynous figures, blossoming flowers, and bizarre panoramas full of chaos and magic. These works incorporate a richer colour palette that moves away from a previous semi-translucent, dusty finish, to a darker and bolder canvas, echoing the more detailed observations of fantastical worlds and the macro- and microcosms of the universe.

Finding influence within complex areas of scientific study including quantum physics and string theory, Fiona visualises the construction and connection of the world through the invisible and how this influences our relationship to what we can see. The work 'Weaving time, spinning spine' (2023) shows a spine running through the canvas with nerves connecting fields of existence together, using the body as an analogy for a universe full of biomes and micro organisms; an ecosystem seemingly invisible yet teeming with life.

Fiona further explores the permeation of energy between inner and outer worlds in the work 'Curled branches, gates unlocked' (2023), depicting winged figures flowing through portals and nerve like fibres wrapping around to form the shape of a shell. Fiona's compositions explode with the excitement of a bustling cosmos of beings both macroscopic and microscopic. This new body of paintings further examines the constructions of reality through the invisible forces of energy. 'Answers from angels (look at the old, look at the young, look at our shrine, look at our time)' (2023) interpolates forms of the organs of a flower alongside images of winged angels moving within a world brimming with flowing lines of energy, connecting beings physically and temporally with the fabric of the past, present, and future of the universe.

Alongside her wall-based paintings, Fiona expands her work into the 3-dimensional, with new sculptural works and a painted jute canvas costume, which will be used in an improvised, durational performance taking place in the space at moments throughout the PV. The costumed performer interacts with the sculptures in the space, and reflects the imagery in the paintings, utilising a repertoire of movements that are slow and attempt to transform into something other and to connect to the earth and the cosmos.

Cecilia Fiona (b. 1997, Copenhagen, DK) lives and works in Copenhagen, DK. She holds a BA in Art History from the University of Copenhagen, DK (2021). Residencies include El Castillete, Madrid, ES (2022).

She has exhibited internationally in galleries and institutes including: The Reventlow-Museum, Lolland, DK; Filosoffen Art Center, Odense, DK; VITRINE, Basel, CH; Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, DK; Marinaro Gallery, New York, USA; The Hole, Los Angeles, USA; SuperZoom Art, Paris, FR; Gallery Q (The Royal Danish Academy of Art), Copenhagen, DK; Formation Gallery, København, DK; Sapling, London, UK; Tivoli Gardens as part of CHART 2023 in Copenhagen, DK; and VITRINE presented a solo booth of Fiona at Independent Art Fair, New York, USA.

Current/Forthcoming shows include a solo show at VITRINE Fitzrovia, London, UK.

**For press enquiries, image requests and private view accreditation please contact:
press@vitrinegallery.com**

Notes to Editor

1. Installation views of the show will be released on Wednesday 17 January 2023.
2. During the Preview on Thursday 18 January 2024, Cecilia Fiona presents a performance 'Pools of prayers (all intertwined)' (2024), performed by Marguerite Vermersch, with music performed by Sophie Søs Meyer.
3. VITRINE is focused on artistic experimentation and emerging interdisciplinary practices. The gallery was founded in Bermondsey, London in 2010, with a second space in Basel opened in 2016, a digital space launched in 2020 and a third space in London's Fitzrovia opened in spring 2022. Over this last decade, we have established a reputation as a selector and nurturer of new talent, supporting artists' careers and the development of their ideas.