

## *DISSONANT BLOOM*

with works by Nancy Allen, Mauro Bonacina and Héloïse Chassepot

16 February - 30 March 2024

'Dissonant Bloom' brings together the work of London based artists Nancy Allen, Mauro Bonacina and Heloise Chassepot.

In music, dissonance refers to the clashing of tones or intervals, creating a sense of tension or instability. In nature it can be observed in ecosystems where diverse species coexist and compete for resources. As a concept 'Dissonant Bloom' refers to our vexed relationship with nature but it also suggests that growth and flourishing are possible amidst unfavourable conditions. In the same way that the coexistence of competing species ultimately fosters biodiversity and ecological resilience. In the same way every work in this exhibition embodies aspects of blooming, either aesthetically or conceptually, but they do not necessarily do so in harmony with each other.

Nancy Allen's practice examines the visual language of objects and their relationship with the human body. Using and referencing everyday materials like soft furnishings, packaging, wallpaper and luggage, her sculptures are often reminiscent of a sense of functionality. This functionality though is upended by playful and flamboyant yet decisive interventions.

Heloise Chassepot's practice comprises painting and sculpture. Drawing on both amateur and canonical iconographic repertoires, she attempts at reinventing pictorial gestures which, in a context of hyperconsciousness, actively seek to give form to innocence and naivety. Winks at girlhood and feelings of unbearable lightness shine through a thin layering of eccentric colours, where repentance seems impossible.

Mauro Bonacina's paintings focus on the way we process images and information, specifically the way we categorise images in order to digest them more efficiently. He works with found imagery which, once selected, is subjected to a laborious digital process of stretching, pulling, cropping and duplicating resulting in combinations of print and painting where the transition between the two is almost indistinguishable.

1)  
Nancy Allen  
*Flood Rug, 2024*  
Whipped vintage carpet, wire  
36 x 106 x 87 cm

2)  
Héloïse Chassepot  
*Another flower, on checkered background, 2024*  
Oil on canvas  
210 x 90 cm

3)  
Nancy Allen  
*Sidewinder, 2024*  
Pebble, ribbon  
Dimensions variable

4)  
Nancy Allen  
*Swelling, 2024*  
Pebble, ribbon  
Dimensions variable

5)  
Mauro Bonacina  
*Xanax, shoulder pads and helicopters, 2023*  
Acrylic and UV ink on canvas  
235 x 244 x 3.5 cm

