

Paintings for London
Nicholas Campbell
Final Hot Desert

22 June - 20 July, 2024



In good storytelling and biography, character development is able to occur at its best through contrasting character aspects that compete with each other through experience, forming a unique and non-flat character riddled with conflicts, resolutions, and disparities. Skilled narrators utilise the format of intake as well, knowing that a reader is processing read information in their imagination, and tactically laying out a story in a way that leans into tendencies of assumption and belief.

Nicholas Campbell's paintings are able to display the active function of multiple states of experience simultaneously. The works change dramatically in different angles of light, asking the viewers to come closer, allowing a viewer to apprehend multifaceted impressions of the painting's surface, its pattern's morphology, and the viewer's own shadows reflected in the individual paintings.

Laminated and stratified in precious brass and copper, the reflective surface of the works lures the viewer into close proximity. Like a moth to a flame, they are made to captivate attention and hold it. This close interaction reveals a new underlayer to the work, a dark study of shadowy depths that punctures its metallic surface. The abrupt ruptures of the paintings reflective, decorative, and luxury-appearing state reveal a visceral shift. Its darker *Ängst* base, dresses itself up in its decorative armour, overcoming its idyllic dysfunction of escape.

This cycle of attributes and experiences that Campbell sets in motion display a more reality-driven set of characteristics. To have many sides or lives collapsed into one entity... to be a culmination of known and unknowns in a mediated society that demands distinguished and singular flat clarity... A holographic subjecthood allows for painting to be and depict both ideas of characterization and self-narration, mediating its own context.

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Nicholas Campbell (b. 1995) lives and works in Los Angeles, California. He has recently exhibited at Smart Objects, Los Angeles; Imperial Gallery, Los Angeles; Final Hot Desert, Rozel Point; and From the Desk of Lucy Bull, Malibu. Campbell has upcoming exhibitions at Mammoth, London and CLEARING, New York.