

Park View/Paul Soto is pleased to announce a solo exhibition by J. Parker Valentine entitled *Skin of Paradise*, her second with the gallery. The opening reception will be held on Sunday, May 12 from 3 to 5pm at 2271 W. Washington Boulevard in Los Angeles and the exhibition will be on view through Saturday, July 13.

J. Parker Valentine's drawn, painted, and sculpted marks and gestures suggest a boundary-less series of actions that seem to chase a subject without indicating the point from which they arise, nor any stable object of meaning. Her work is produced and experienced as an activity taking place in space, which moves through a limitless ecology comprised of line, contour, form, shadow, positive space, negative space, weight and gravity, among other elements.

The title of the exhibition holds many evocations, and the reference to skin is particularly relevant in light of her output, which focuses on the physical attributes of her materials and how they drive the production of the work themselves. Her materials and supports here are treated as skins in that her activity and gestures appear to accumulate on top as an overlay or shell. Yet certain forms seem to also provide suggestive portals for interior spaces.

The plasticine supports in her draped works highlight each move, cumulatively establishing dense painted realms and repeated and echoing contours within the picture that are broken up by tableau-like outlines. This expressive buildup assumes a life in real space in her pigmented plaster works on board, which define loose figurative contours into weighty human profiles, as well as in her found and repurposed metal works.

The exhibition carries a raw, embodied quality characteristic of Valentine's sensual output. Her work has always returned to the body, as a skeleton or apparatus for world-making to unfold. Its fleshy sensibility here bears a correspondence to bruised and battered interfaces and structural devices that are nevertheless called upon as conductors for feeling, and meaning.

J. Parker Valentine is an artist based in Los Angeles. Her works have been exhibited at KRIEG, Hasselt (BE); Galerie Max Mayer, Dusseldorf (DE); Barbara Gladstone Gallery, Brussels (BE); The Juan & Patricia Vergez Collection, Buenos Aires (AR); Park View, Los Angeles (USA); Langen Foundation, Neuss (DE); Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit (USA); 1857, Oslo (NO); Misako & Rosen, Tokyo (JP); Peep-Hole, Milan (IT); Artpace, San Antonio (TX); Museo Marino Marini, Florence (IT); Austin Museum of Art (TX); and Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (MO), among others.

*(This document was automatically generated by Contemporary Art Library.)*