

Massimo De Carlo London is pleased to present *Let's Kill Nicole*, an exhibition by the New York based American artist Jamian Juliano-Villani. *Let's Kill Nicole* alludes to a friend, most likely in grade school, who makes a violently irrational suggestion, such as killing a bully or a friend. That suggestion is the vortex of the show.

*Overtaci*, a deer-cum-human figure, finds its origin from the obsessive work of a Danish outsider artist, Overtaci. Overtaci spent majority of her life as a patient mainly hidden in the Risskov Psychiatric Hospital in Aarhus, Denmark. Juliano-Villani reimagines the artist's muse as a teenage American lacrosse player framed by a parents' camera lens. The stale obsessive humanoid is frozen in activity, with the athletic shorts rolled up all the way up.

When a veteran retires they are usually given a ceremonial water salute with firehoses and jets, saluting them for their work. In two paintings, *Big Amy* and one small - *Little Amy*, a mirage vision of Amy Winehouse as a child is airbrushed in a desert, an ocean, being saluted by dolphins and lizards. The lowly beach style of boardwalk t-shirts and trinkets is used to memorialize Amy. She is a blip of a cheap angel in British culture.

*Let's Kill Nicole* focuses on banal drama. There is irrational and melodramatic behaviour; a guilty dog with a bagel knife in his mouth, the butoh dancer Kazuo Ohno reminiscing over old CDs, and a naive monster truck mural trying to break out of the facade of the gallery. This is Juliano-Villani's second show with the gallery.

Jamian Juliano-Villani was born in 1986 in Newark, New Jersey. She currently lives and works in New York. Solo exhibitions include: *Ten Pound Hand*, JTT, New York, NY, US (2018); *Sincerely, Tony*, Massimo De Carlo, Milan, I (2017); *Hydra Workshop*, Hydra, GR (2017); *The World's Greatest Planet on Earth*, Studio Voltaire, London, UK (2016). Group shows include: *Trouble in Paradise*, Kunsthal Rotterdam, Rotterdam, NL (2019); *Low Form*, MAXXI, Rome, I (2018); *Infinite Blue*, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY, US (2018); *Homage to Colin De Land*, Massimo De Carlo, Milan, Italy (2017); *Living Apart Together: Recent Acquisitions from the Hammer Contemporary Collection*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA, US (2017); *Park Nights* 2016, Serpentine Gallery, London, UK (2016); *Flatlands*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, US (2016).

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