

THE ARTIST ROOM

KRISTY M CHAN ZONA MACO

7 – 11 February 2024

For Zona Maco, The Artist Room presents five new paintings by London-based artist, Kristy M Chan.

Two of the works were produced on the Beecher Residency at the Stillman House in Connecticut (founded by collectors and patrons John Auerbach and Ed Tang) in November 2023, where Chan spent a solitary period in the iconic modernist house allowing her undisturbed time to focus on new paintings.

Dense snow fall, a flowing river and an abundance of books helped inform her process, with an emphasis on intuition in each physically intensive gesture. The stark weather conditions of winter in London and Connecticut informed her recent works, whose colours also reflect on the vibrancy of Mexico City. Chan's latest works also allude to ongoing concerns surrounding migration and displacement which are key, formative investigations in her practice.

Utilising thick and thinned layers of oil paint and oil stick, chance, risk and erasure are essential in Chan's careful process in resolving her painting's final form. These layers are informed by natural inclinations dependent on her environment where an essence of 'impurity' within painting allows for a more free flowing hand: 'Painting with intent', she says, 'without the intention of a goal.'

NOTES TO EDITORS

Kristy M Chan (b.1997, Hong Kong) currently lives between London and Hong Kong. Rooted in observation, Chan's artistic practice brings together narratives of migration and displacement alongside a consciously absurdist and satirical temperament. Her densely built-up works often depart from her experience navigating her relationship with 'finding home' when moving between, and originating from, differing cultural geographies. Chan's oil and oil stick paintings – often incorporating a distinctively kaleidoscopic and vibrant palette of jewelled tones – synthesise together dissonant, adventitious and sometimes surreal junctures she experiences, while simultaneously conjuring the dizzying cadence of contemporary life.

Kristy M Chan works between London and Hong Kong. She received her BFA from Slade School of Fine Art in 2019 and her MA from Sotheby's Institute of Art in 2020. Selected recent solo exhibitions include Molehill Mountaineer, The Cabin, Los Angeles (2023); Binge, The Artist Room and Simon Lee Gallery, London (2022); Strong Cookie, Prior Art Space, Berlin (2022) and Totally Not, The Artist Room, London, (2021–2).

Selected recent group exhibitions include Immersed, curated by Jack Siebert, Los Angeles (2023); The Sky Above the Roof, Tabula Rasa, Beijing (2022); Femme-Ate, Soho Revue, London (2021); Space Shuffler, HART HAUS, Hong Kong (2021); Lichtspiele Des Westen, Leipzig (2020); Big Soft Illusion, Alte Handelsschule, Leipzig (2020); Cookhouse Gallery, Chelsea College of Arts, London (2019); and Haam4 Seo12 Goeng1, Hong Kong Visual Art Centre, Hong Kong (2019).

Residencies include The Beecher Residency, Connecticut (2023); Cabin, Los Angeles (2022–3); Del Arco Residency, Berlin (2022); PILOTENKUECHE, Leipzig (2020) and AiR Frosterus, Finland (2019).

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