

Mathew Tom: *The Pure Land*

Private View & Reception

Thursday, 13 December 2018, 6-8 pm

Exhibition

14 December 2018 – 9 February 2019

Tuesday - Saturday 11am - 6pm & by appointment

CHRISTINE
PARK
GALLERY

515 W 23rd Street, New York, NY 10011
www.christinepark.net | info@christinepark.net





Mathew Tom, Studio view - work in progress, New York, November 2018.

Mathew Tom: *The Pure Land*

14 December 2018 – 9 February 2019

Private View & Reception
Thursday, 13 December 2018

515 West 23rd Street, New York, NY 10011
Tuesday to Saturday, 11am – 6pm & by appointment

Christine Park Gallery is pleased to present the first solo exhibition by New York-based multi-disciplinary artist Mathew Tom (b. 1984). This exhibition showcases Tom's most recent works from his painting series, which explore images from what has traditionally been known as the diametrically opposite worlds of "East" and "West," each with its own separate cultural and visual traditions. Through his paintings, Tom examines the concept of so-called East-West dichotomy and its cultural intersection and unveils how an image that may begin in one part of the world can transform into one that is universally recognized.

Culling from art history, Tom edits and reinterprets historical artworks. These reimagined images, separated from their original context, become hazy dream-like fantasies. With a Chinese father and an American mother, Tom is deeply interested in the notion of being "Asian" and ways to reconcile two opposing cultures.

Tom's training in Korean *Minhwa* painting in Gwangju, South Korea has greatly influenced his current style. With paintings that feature a tiger from a Japanese folding screen from 1630, cherries from a European botanical illustration, a young woman from a Chinese 1930's advertising poster, vases from the Chinese Ming Dynasty, a model from 18th century London, and a pair of hands from a German Medieval painting, Tom portrays images that hold symbolic significance for Eastern and Western cultures.

Questioning notions of cultural appropriation, Tom traces the transference of artistic trends between the East and West and its broader meaning in our current globalized society. Manipulated and repeated through history, these images become universal and survive through the centuries. Tom wonders if it is possible for individual images to become universal through repetition. *What is really East, and what is West?*



Installation view



Installation view





Horse (After Lang Shining aka Giuseppe Castiglione)
2018
Oil on Linen
60h x 48w in (154.4h x 121.1w cm)



Details



Young Woman (After 1930s Chinese Insect Repellent Poster)
 2018
 Oil on Linen
 60h x 48w in (154.4h x 121.1w cm)



Details



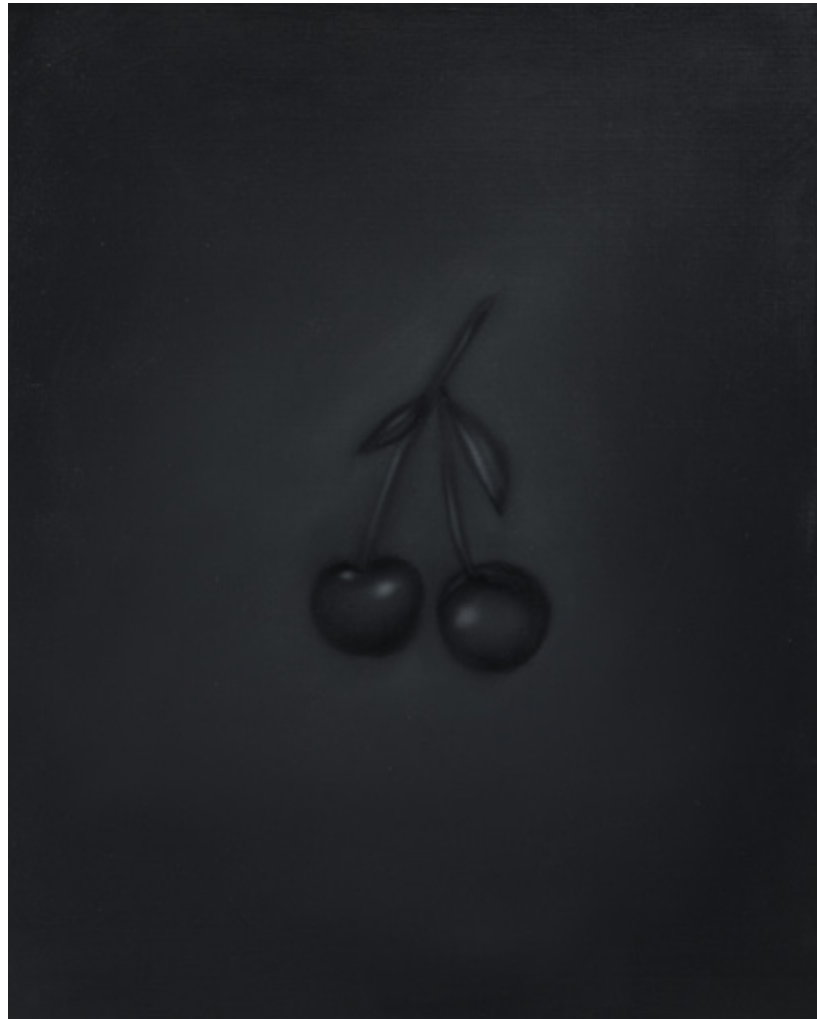
Stigmata (After Hans Memling)
 2018
 Oil on Linen
 60h x 48w in (154.4h x 121.1w cm)



Details



Installation view



Cherries (After European Botanical Illustration)
2018
Oil on Linen
20h x 16w in (50.8h x 40.6w cm)



Details



Installation view



Vase (After Ming Dynasty Vessel)
2018
Oil on Linen
60h x 48w in (154.4h x 121.1w cm)



Details



Installation view



Praying Hands (After Hans Memling)
2018
Oil on Linen
60h x 48w in (154.4h x 121.1w cm)



Details



Vase (After Yuan Dynasty Double-Gourd)
 2018
 Oil on Linen
 60h x 48w in (154.4h x 121.1w cm)



Details



Young Woman (After George Romney)
2018
Oil on Linen
60h x 48w in (154.4h x 121.1w cm)



Details



Installation view



Flying Tiger (After Kano Tanyu)
2018
Oil on Linen
54h x 72w in (137.2h x 182.9w cm)



Source Images



Tommaso di Folco Portinari (1428–1501);
Maria Portinari (Maria Maddalena Baroncelli, born 1456)
Hans Memling
ca. 1470



Illustration of a horse
Lang Shining (Giuseppe Castiglione)



Emma Hart as Circe
George Romney
1782



Illustration of Botanical Research
Anonymous European artist



1930's Chinese Insect Repellent Poster



The Man of Sorrows Blessing
Hans Memling
1480 - 1490



Tigers in a Bamboo Grove (Tigers at Play), Kano Tanyu, mid-1630s

MATHEW TOM

Mathew Tom (b.1984) is a New York-based multi-disciplinary artist. He has been developing a world in which he combines elements from Asian traditional painting and European classical painting to create his own utopia called “Society of Friends”. Figures and animals are part of a larger mythology within his works that is in pursuit of the idyllic community he desires. In a world where everyone is in such perpetual bliss, even tigers have transcended their animal instincts and have joined the society as well. Deeply interested in the power of images,Tom ponders the supernatural abilities a painting can express and if these images can transcend geographic borders and cultural borders and exist independently from their original context.

EDUCATION

- 2014
- Starr Fellowship, Royal Academy Schools, London
- 2011
- MFA Fine Art Goldsmiths, University of London
- 2008
- Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Painting,The School of the Art Institute of Chicago
- 2007
- BFA University of Central Florida

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2014
- He Knows He Is Not Real*, Royal Academy of Arts, London
- 2012
- Welcome to Paradise*, Hoxton Art Gallery, London
- Perfect Future*, B93 Space, Enschede

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2018
- CICA Experimental Film and Video 2018*, CICA Museum, Gimpo
- New Look*, Christine Park Gallery, New York
- Photofairs San Francisco 2018* presented by Christine Park Gallery, San Francisco
- 2015
- The Manchester Contemporary*, Manchester
- AartVideo Riviera 2015*, Netanya
- Jacket*, Crisp-Ellert Art Museum, St. Augustine, FL
- Get On the Pool*, LA Piscina, Los Angeles, CA
- Artist Film Screening 2015*, KARST Projects, Plymouth
- 2014
- Taipei Free Art Fair*, Huashan Creative Park,Taipei
- Mapping Detours*, Chitrakoot Art Gallery, Kolkata
- 2013
- INCUBARTE*, Museo Valenciano de la Ilustración y la Modernidad, Valencia
- Narrative: Point A to Point B*, LCB Depot, Leicester
- Mostyn Open 18*, Mostyn Oriel, Llandudno
- Four Seasons*, Kristin Hjellegjerde, London
- 2012
- Marmite Painting Prize*, Drawing Room, London, touring the UK
- Zardo*, MOT International, London
- Jerwood Drawing Prize Exhibition*, Jerwood Space, London
- Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London
- Wunderkammer*, Hoxton Art Gallery, London

- 2011
- Affordable Art Fair*, London
- Grammar of the Ornament*, Hoxton Art Gallery, London
- London Original Print Fair*, Royal Academy, London
- 2008
- Gen Next III*, Aakriti Art Gallery, Kolkata
- Lucky 13 Exhibition*, Gene Siskel Film Center, Chicago
- Paper Love*, Dan Devening Projects, Chicago

RESIDENCIES

- 2015
- Joshua Tree Highlands Artist Residency, Joshua Tree, California
- BARIM International Artist Residency, Gwangju
- Visiting Artist in Residence, Northwestern Oklahoma State University
- 2014
- Whisper Residency, Centre for Chinese Contemporary Art, Manchester
- The League Residency at Vyt, Artist Student League, New York
- Starr Fellowship Artist in Residence, Royal Academy Schools, London
- 2012
- ARE Holland, Enschede

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2018
- Art Review, Stone, Mee-Lai. “Photofairs in San Francisco: the best pictures on display”, The Guardian (February)
- Interview, “Mathew Tom from Christine Park Gallery speaks to PHOTOFAIRS”, Photofairs Blog (February)
- 2015
- Interview, Made in Mind Magazine Issue 02 (January)
- 2014
- Interview, Liu, Serein. “Mathew Tom: Whisper Residency”, CFCCA Archive Online (December)
- Interview, Hill, Elizabeth, “Mathew Tom & the RA Schools Starr Fellowship”, Royal Academy Blog (June)
- Interview, Bottomley, Jon, “Memory”, Art School Illustrated (June)
- 2013
- Art Review, Khan, Tabish, “Four Seasons @ Art Eco”, Londonist (January)
- 2012
- Art Review, Ormiston, Rosalind. “Finding paradise in east London”, Cassone Magazine (December)
- Interview, Modeste, Monique. “Welcome to Paradise – Rough meets Mathew Tom”, Rough Magazine (November)
- Art Review, Carstens, Katrine. “WUNDERKAMMER AT THE HOXTON ART GALLERY”, Shoreditch Radio (March)



Portrait of the artist in Christine Park Gallery, New York, December 2018.

GALLERY 515 W 23rd St. New York, NY 10011
CONTACT www.christinepark.net | info@christinepark.net

IMAGES COURTESY OF Christine Park Gallery and the artist
PHOTO BY Dan Bradica
DESIGN BY Jiin Ahn
PUBLISHED BY Christine Park Gallery, New York, 2018

**CHRISTINE
PARK
GALLERY**