CHRISTINE PARK GALLERY

CHRISTINE PARK GALLERY at SPRING/BREAK New York 2021

SPRING/BREAK Art Show New York 2021

Mystical Visions: Nick Archer, Vangelis Pliarides, Jenny Pockley & Wei Xiaoguang

8 - 13 September, 2021

625 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022

Press Preview & First Look Collectors Preview | Wednesday, September 8, 11am - 5pm

Collectors Preview Day (Extended) | Thursday, September 9, 11am - 5pm

VIP Preview Nights | Wednesday, September 8 & Thursday, September 9, 5pm - 9pm

Regular Show Days | Friday, September 10 - Monday, September 13, 11am - 8pm

For immediate release

CHRISTINE PARK GALLERY is pleased to return to SPRING/BREAK Art Show New York for its HEARSAY:HERESY 2021 exhibition. For our second year participating in the fair, we will present a curated project entitled *Mystical Visions* featuring artists Nick Archer, Vangelis Pliarides, Jenny Pockley and Wei Xiaoguang. The paintings in our presentation will explore the theme of "mysticism", whose foundations can be traced back to early Medieval times. Derived from the Greek word $\mu \dot{\nu} \omega$ (to conceal), the term indicates the belief that absolute truth and spiritual awakening can be reached through contemplation. By immersing themselves into the worlds portrayed by our artists, we invite our viewers to challenge the limits between reality and illusion, and dive deeper into the layers of meaning embedded within the paintings.

In **Nick Archer**'s paintings, the enchanted landscapes and isolated figurative elements, such as the abandoned car featured in *White Car*, are dominated by a thriving nature that refuses to stop. The layering paint technique used by the artist enhances the idea of tension originating from the presence of simultaneous visions of beauty and crisis.

Influenced by the artist's adventures and travels around the world, **Vangelis Pliarides**'s *The Bandaged Shoulder* is a journey into the unconscious. In the diptych, a large head set against an ocean background is paired with a bunch of red flowers, combining elements from different painting traditions in order to allow us into the inner world of the artist. The use of Surrealist elements offers a glimpse into the surreal character of reality.

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The paintings of clouds and mountains executed by **Jenny Pockley** initiate the viewers to another kind of journey, characterized by silence and reverence. Her works show us the majesty and unattainability of nature. The eternal character of mountains and clouds inevitability contrasts with our human nature and encourages us to admire the beauty of getting lost in the things that are immortal.

Wei Xiaoguang's paintings bring us back to the shapes, opacity and beauty of Medieval stained glasswork. At the same time, the careful execution of light presents his canvases with an immediacy that is rare to find in non-figurative works. The visual language of his paintings plays with symbols and applies unexpected elements to abstract representations.

Instagram

@ChristineParkGallery #ChristineParkGallery #NickArcher #VangelisPliarides #JennyPockley #WeiXiaoguang @SpringBreakArtShow #springbreakartshow #springbreakartshow2021 #springbreakartshownyc #hearsayheresy

About the Artists

NICK ARCHER

Born in the UK in 1963, Nick Archer studied at the Royal Academy Schools in London. He received several awards, including the Hunting Art Prize, the BP Portrait Award at the National Portrait Gallery (London), and the Figure Painting Award at the Discerning Eye Award. He has exhibited extensively in the UK and Europe. His paintings were presented in several international art fairs in the US and Japan and were featured in museum exhibitions including the National Portrait Gallery, London and the Wandsworth Museum, London. His works are included in several international private, corporate and public collections, including the Satellite collection of the Hermitage Museum (Moscow), the Historic Royal Palaces at the Tower of London, and the Al-Sabah Family Collection (Kuwait). He lives and works in Rye, East Sussex.

VANGELIS PLIARIDES

Born in 1964 in Thessaloniki, Greece, he graduated from the Aristotle University, School of Fine Arts in Thessaloniki in 1989. He finished his studies in London at the Royal College of Art by obtaining a Post Experience Diploma (PED) in Painting (1992) and a Master of Fine Arts in Painting (1994). He received awards and fellowships from the British Council, the Fulbright Foundation and the RTZ plc, his artworks are included in various public collections such as Astra Zeneca (Sweden), Alfa Laval (Sweden), Scania (Sweden), Södertälje Konsthall (Sweden), Union of Swedish Artists

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(Sweden), Royal College of Art (UK), British Council (UK), Fulbright Foundation in Greece, Frissiras Museum (Greece), Foundation Sana-Huja (Spain), and Musée d'art moderne et contemporain (MAMCO) (Switzerland). He is currently a Professor of Painting at Aristotle University, School of Fine Arts. He lives and works in Thessaloniki and London.

JENNY POCKLEY

Born in the UK in 1972, Jenny Pockley gained a post graduate diploma from the Royal Academy Schools, London in 1997 after studying for a BA(Hons) Fine Art Degree at KIAD at Canterbury. She has exhibited extensively in London but also has displayed works in Bath, Paris, New York, San Francisco and Toronto. She has gained numerous commissions, both private and corporate, including for the Waldorf Astoria group and Tiffany's. She now lives and works in Rye, East Sussex.

WEI XIAOGUANG

Born in 1986 in Inner-Mongolia, China, Wei Xiaoguang gained a BFA from the Central Academy of Fine Art in Beijing in 2010 and an MFA from Hunter College in New York in 2014. He has exhibited in New York, Shanghai and Beijing. Overcoming the distinction between representation and abstraction, Wei Xiaoguang's work is deeply embedded in the post "Death of Painting" period. By carefully modulating effects of light, textures and surfaces, his paintings effectively combine multiple visual languages and artistic traditions. He lives and works in Beijing and Shanghai, where he is an instructor for the Institute of Management of Art and Design at the Central Academy of Fine Arts.

About the Gallery

Christine Park Gallery is a young gallery dedicated to supporting both emerging and established international artists. Located in TriBeCa, New York's burgeoning art hotspot and Anfu Lu in the heart of Shanghai's historical French Concession, the gallery has an extensive programme of solo shows, conceptually curated group exhibitions, and special installations. With a constantly developing roster of innovative artists the gallery prides itself on exhibiting works in a range of media, seeking to provoke cross-disciplinary debate and extend the boundaries of the current contemporary art scene. As of 2021, our New York Gallery is temporarily on hold due to the Novel Coronavirus. However, the Gallery opens its second space and its first space in Asia on Anfu Lu, Shanghai during Summer 2021.

Our vision is to provide a platform to allow artists to develop and gain greater recognition. Therefore, as well as providing a commercial space that artists can use as a canvas to realise their projects and present their works to the public, we actively foster relations with art foundations, public museums and private clients.

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