Shelter

JAQUELINE CEDAR

Brooklyn-based artist Jaqueline Cedar creates paintings and drawings that address uncanny scenarios where characters engage themselves and one another with sincerity and purpose. Moments of desire, self-reflection, and lack of control motivate postures filled with bravado and vulnerability.

The figures in Cedar's paintings make rote attempts to connect both physically and psychologically as their gestures are echoed and amplified by their environment. They have strong inclinations toward action yet limited mobility, often finding themselves absorbed by their own thoughts, yet compelled to engage with their surroundings. Filled with a sense of impending doom and still uncertain of their purpose, these characters acknowledge the absurdity of their circumstances; some are distracted by the task at hand, others ask questions and observe closely. Each figure is not just the focus of each painting, but is also both observer and actor, contained within each frame while also appearing ready to escape from it at any moment.

Jaqueline Cedar was born in Los Angeles, CA and currently lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. Cedar is an educator at several New York art museums and in 2019 opened the Brooklyn gallery Good Naked. In 2021 she had her debut solo exhibition at Shelter. Her work has been featured in exhibitions at Hesse Flatow (NY), Ladies' Room (Los Angeles, CA), Smoke the Moon (Santa Fe, NM), Petty Cash (Brooklyn, NY), Hudson Hall (Hudson, NY), and Field Projects (New York, NY). Recent press includes Artnet, Two Coats of Paint, New American Paintings, and Boston Voyager. Cedar holds an MFA from Columbia University (2009).