

Meliksetian MB Briggs

NADA New York 2022

Solo presentation at Meliksetian | Briggs

Artist: Alex Heilbron (b. 1987, San Rafael, CA)

Statement / Art work description

Employing formal elements of patterning and the grid, Alex Heilbron's paintings explore the feminine and femininity, along with digital image creation and consumption via the handmade. Addressing societal conversations of gender fluidity and identity, Heilbron's paintings propose feminine visual realities as the center around which all other images evolve.

Interrelated thematically and formally, Heilbron's portrait-oriented paintings create a linked visual narrative where symbols, patterns and a repeated feminine figure move seamlessly from one work to the next. These patterns form grids of floral motifs, geometric shapes and rigid lines, that withhold and expose the underlying imagery of female figures and disrupt the picture plane by appearing simultaneously as foreground and background, creating an interplay that both flattens and enhances the multitude of hand-painted layers.

In her new paintings shown for the first time at NADA, Alex Heilbron continues to explore the complex, coded, and culturally embedded systems of femininity through the use of patterning, bright colors and hyper-stylized symbols of young women and flowers. Appropriating imagery reminiscent of digital production, in person the paintings insist on a visual experience that operates on a slower timescale.

Education

2020	Master of Fine Arts, University of California, Los Angeles, CA
2014-2017	Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf, Germany
2009	Bachelor of Fine Arts, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA

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Selected exhibitions

- 2022 Women Painting Women, The Modern Art Museum of Forth Worth, TX curated by Andrea Karnes (forthcoming May 2022, catalog)
- 2021 *Time and Intent*, Meliksetian | Briggs, Los Angeles, CA, (solo; cat.)
- 2020 *High Shame*, Hiestand Galleries, Miami University, Oxford, OH (solo)
- 2019 *C'BARET What Not/Speak Easy*, LAXART, Los Angeles, CA (group)
- 2017 *Scent Description for a Young Woman*, Ashley, Berlin, Germany (solo)
- Before Physician Narratives Came Patient Narratives*, Storage Capacite, Dusseldorf, Germany (solo)
- If the body is a temple and a body is a subject and a temple has walls – it becomes apparent that a temple is a body*, Moscow Museum of Modern Art, Moscow, Russia (group)

Awards

- 2019 Dorothy and William Yeck Young Painters Award.
Helen Frankenthaler Foundation (grant)