

Pleasure & Protest

IN CONTEMPORARY FIGURE PAINTING



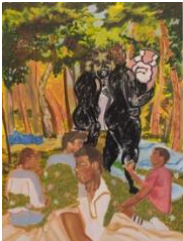
Jackie Gendel, Lovie Olivia, Yana Payusova, Alexis Pye, and Keer Tanchak

Pleasure & Protest presents figure painting as a sensory and political engagement through hybrid practices. Connecting conceptual threads in the work of these five artists center on exploring or re-situating domestic craft and decorative art practices in relation to painting the figure. They employ strategies of pattern, gesture, and repetition through a range of materials and methods including watercolor, fresco-secco, wallpaper, clay, and embroidery. Their works celebrate handwork and revel in the pleasures of tactile surfaces, decoration, and ornamentation.

Over forty years on from the groundbreaking Pattern and Decoration art movement, works by these five artists prompt fresh discussion about the renewed value of craft in contemporary art practices. Collectively their work protests against hierarchies in subject and material, and their concerns in paint reflect current feminist discourse about cultural identity, representation and making.



Yana Payusova
Facets, Revolution series, 2018
stoneware, underglaze & gold luster
9 x 8 ¼ inches each (25 tiles)
Courtesy of the artist



Alexis Pye
Be Like a Vase and Stay Awhile, 2023
oil, oil stick, oil pastel & embroidery
on canvas
48 1/8 x 36 inches
Collection of Tanya Campbell



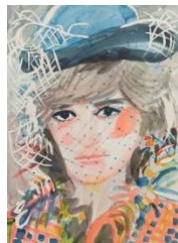
Yana Payusova
Higher, Faster, Stronger, Revolution series, 2017
stoneware, underglaze & gold luster
20 x 12 x 9 inches
Courtesy of the artist



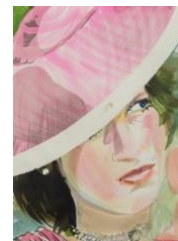
Keer Tanchak
CD Abbie, 2022
acrylic ink on paper
30 x 22 inches
Courtesy of the artist and 12.26, Dallas, TX



Keer Tanchak
CD Victoria, 2022
acrylic ink on paper
30 x 22 inches
Courtesy of the artist and 12.26, Dallas, TX



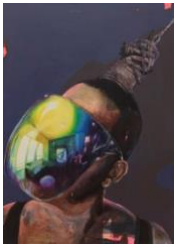
Keer Tanchak
DS Net, 2022
acrylic ink on paper
14 1/8 x 10 ¼ inches
Courtesy of the artist and 12.26, Dallas, TX



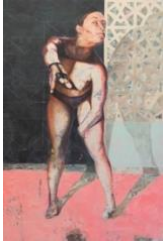
Keer Tanchak
DS Sus, 2022
acrylic ink on paper
14 1/8 x 10 ¼ inches
Courtesy of the artist and 12.26, Dallas, TX



Keer Tanchak
DS Sony, 2022
acrylic ink on paper
14 1/8 x 10 ¼ inches
Courtesy of the artist and 12.26, Dallas, TX



Lovie Olivia
Tethered, 2021
 fresco-secco & sgraffito technique with
 gypsum
 plaster, pigment & acrylic on birch plywood
 39 ¼ x 28 inches
 Courtesy of the artist



Lovie Olivia
Open Carry, 2017
 fresco-secco & sgraffito technique with
 gypsum plaster,
 pigment & acrylic on birch plywood
 60 x 40 x 2 inches
 Courtesy of the artist



Alexis Pye
Live from the Ritz, Ms. So n So sings Mr. Paganini, 2022
 oil, oil pastel & oil stick on panel
 48 1/8 x 36 inches
 Collection of Alyssa &
 Gregory Shannon



Keer Tanchak
CD shrooms, 2022
 acrylic ink on paper
 14 x 17 inches
 Courtesy of the artist and 12.26,
 Dallas, TX



Alexis Pye
Ode to Alonte, 2021
 acrylic yarn, gouache & black crayon
 16 ½ x 15 inches
 Private Collection, Houston



Keer Tanchak
DS Trench, 2023
 acrylic ink on paper
 14 1/8 x 10 ¼ inches
 Courtesy of the artist and 12.26, Dallas, TX



Keer Tanchak
DS Pace, 2023
 acrylic ink on paper
 14 1/8 x 10 ¼ inches
 Courtesy of the artist and 12.26, Dallas, TX



Yana Payusova
Birds, Revolution series, 2019
 Stoneware, underglaze & gold luster
 22 x 30 x 20 inches
 Courtesy of the artist



Keer Tanchak
KM snow pups, 2022
 acrylic ink on paper
 30 x 22 inches
 Courtesy of the artist and 12.26,
 Dallas, TX



Keer Tanchak
Marionette, 2023
 acrylic ink on paper
 30 x 22 inches
 Courtesy of the artist and 12.26,
 Dallas, TX



Keer Tanchak
Crouton, 2022
 Oil on aluminum
 20 ¼ x 12 ¼ x ½ inches
 Courtesy of the artist and 12.26,
 Dallas, TX



Keer Tanchak
CD and AV night garden, 2022
 acrylic ink on paper
 22 x 30 inches
 Courtesy of the artist and 12.26,
 Dallas, TX



Keer Tanchak
CD and AV in the studio, 2022
 acrylic ink on paper
 22 x 30 inches
 Courtesy of the artist and 12.26,
 Dallas, TX



Jackie Gendel
Toile De Femmes, wallpaper design
 Peg Norriss wallpapers, Jackie
 Gendel Collection
 Produced and provided by
 Schumacher & Co.



Jackie Gendel
Leaving the picture repeat, 2023
 watercolor, acrylic, gouache & ink on
 handmade paper
 12 x 12 inches
 Courtesy of the artist & Inman
 Gallery, Houston



Jackie Gendel
Whisper Pattern, 2022
 watercolor, gouache & ink on paper
 12 x 8 1/8 inches
 Courtesy of the artist & Inman Gallery,
 Houston



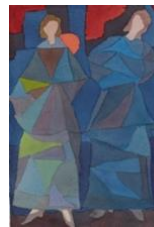
Jackie Gendel
Sidelong glances, 2022
 watercolor, acrylic, gouache & ink on
 handmade paper
 12 x 12 inches
 Courtesy of the artist & Inman
 Gallery, Houston



Jackie Gendel
Of the hour, 2021
 watercolor, gouache & ink on paper
 11 7/8 x 8 1/4 inches
 Courtesy of the artist & Inman Gallery,
 Houston



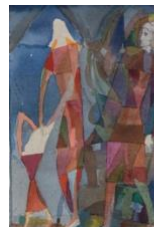
Jackie Gendel
Women & horse, 2014
 Watercolor & gouache on handmade
 paper
 11 1/2 x 8 3/8 inches
 Courtesy of the artist & Inman Gallery,
 Houston



Jackie Gendel
Blue Hour II, 2022
 watercolor, gouache & ink on paper
 11 1/2 x 8 3/8 inches
 Courtesy of the artist & Inman Gallery,
 Houston



Jackie Gendel
Three Women, Network Dresses, 2022
 watercolor on paper
 11 3/4 x 8 1/4 inches
 Courtesy of the artist & Inman Gallery,
 Houston



Jackie Gendel
Study for Women and Dog, 2022
 watercolor, acrylic, gouache & ink on
 handmade paper
 11 x 9 1/4 inches
 Courtesy of the artist & Inman
 Gallery, Houston



Yana Payusova
Origins, Revolution series, 2019
 stoneware, underglaze & gold luster
 21 x 15 x 7 inches
 Courtesy of the artist



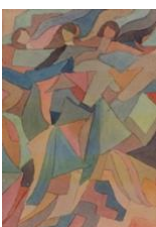
Alexis Pye
The miseducation of Black Girls,
 2022
 gouache & graphite on vellum
 toned paper, acrylic yarn
 18 x 20 inches
 Courtesy of the artist & Inman
 Gallery, Houston



Jackie Gendel
Sidewalk/Passages, 2023
 oil on canvas
 54 x 48 inches
 Courtesy of the artist & SOCO
 Gallery, Charlotte, NC



Lovie Olivia
Elusive, 2015
 fresco-secco & sgraffito
 technique with gypsum
 plaster, pigment & acrylic on
 birch plywood
 48 x 48 inches
 Courtesy of the artist



Jackie Gendel
Wave Effect, 2022
 watercolor, gouache & ink on paper
 11 7/8 x 8 1/2 inches
 Courtesy of the artist & Inman Gallery,
 Houston

Jackie Gendel's repetitive use of forms is both narrative and decorative. The sequencing found in her small watercolor paintings shows women in action, moving through the world with a fluid, dynamic energy in the process of becoming. These rhythmic forms echo textile designs and reference historic painters such as Sonia Delaunay, Jane Kaufman and Joyce Kozloff. Installed on wallpaper designed by Gendel, the paintings invite conversation with practices found in interior design and home decoration. www.jackiegendel.com

For **Lovie Olivia** a preoccupation with domestic interiors involves intersectional investigation of narratives, from examining Southern hospitality to revealing histories of queer women of color. She creates unique surfaces through repeated layering of plaster and pigments in her fresco-secco paintings. Simultaneously fragile and fortified, the results of Olivia's excavations and mark-making suggest a material metaphor of how experiences overlap, and identities are formed. www.lovieolivia.com

Yana Payusova's work reflects both her cultural heritage and training in traditional Russian realist painting; it blends the styles and symbols of folk art, icons, graphic posters, illustration & comics. The mundane activities depicted on her ceramic tiles and vessels, such as women doing the washing up or sitting under the hairdryer at the salon, are countered by gold luster highlights. Through this gesture, Payusova's ordinary heroines become mythical protagonists in painted three-dimensional form. www.payusova.com

Alexis Pye challenges traditions in portraiture to express the Black body outside of social constructs. She explores pastoral representations of the figure in gardens and parks, and integrates mixed media within painting in the form of embroidery or punch-stitch needlework. By eschewing stereotypically urban depictions of the Black body and instead embracing landscapes or other relaxing scenes of entertainment and pleasure that she has experienced herself, Pye attempts to evoke feelings of playfulness, wonder and joy in blackness. www.alexispye.info

Populating the space between figuration and abstraction, the women in **Keer Tanchak's** paintings often appear ambiguous or out of reach. From fashion models and movies stars to royalty, her appropriated portrait subjects inhabit an iconic space that exudes luxury and pleasure. Tanchak's reversal of the male gaze reveals a staging or branding of women's identity through fashion and entertainment; from capturing exuberantly wallpapered interiors in a Catherine Deneuve movie to showcasing the millinery range of Princess Diana. www.keertanchak.com

About the Guest Curator

Dr. Sara-Jayne Parsons is the Director and Curator of the Art Galleries at TCU (Texas Christian University) in Fort Worth, Texas. She promotes the professional development of students and local artists through programming in Moudy Gallery and drives the international curatorial vision of TCU's satellite space, Fort Worth Contemporary Arts. Her curatorial practice is informed by working in close collaboration with artists to produce new artworks through commissions, exhibitions, and artist residencies. www.sarajayneparsons.com

Pleasure & Protest is curated by Dr. Sara-Jayne Parsons and organized by The Art Galleries at TCU in Fort Worth, TX, with assistance from Inman Gallery in Houston, TX and SOCO Gallery in Charlotte, NC. The wallpaper in the exhibition is designed by Jackie Gendel and is provided by Peg Norriss and Schumacher & Co. The exhibition is also sponsored by a grant from the UCCS Faculty Assembly Women's Committee.