HUXLEY-PARLOUR

Catherine Repko: a new season's dawning

1 Dec 2023 - 13 January 2024



MATRIARCH (2023)

Huxley-Parlour is pleased to present London-based artist Catherine Repko's second solo exhibition with the gallery, a new season's dawning. The exhibition consists of a group of new large-scale canvases developed over the past year, exploring social rituals and symbolic moments of change and transition.

Rendered in Repko's distinct restrained and muted palette, this latest body of work continues the artist's interest in memory, ancestry and nostalgia. Repko's compositions depict entanglements of figures at human-scale, fingers intertwined and bodies coalescing, each rendered in shades of ochre, terracotta and indigo. The figures seem at once connected to each other and yet isolated, each submerged in thick and visceral negative space. The female figures become proxies or symbolic ciphers for, or perhaps even phantoms of, sororal relationships.

Emptied of almost all reference points, the bodies in Repko's paintings are articulated in minimal silhouette. The singular ear, however, has become a recurring motif in Repko's work, and is woven throughout the canvases of a new season's dawning. In otherwise featureless figures, the ear remains – shell-like – a talisman of remembrance replete with anticipation of intimacy.

In this new body of work, Repko has returned once again to mixing powdered marble dust with her oil paint. The resulting surfaces appear densely textural, recalling the faded, stone-like surface of a fresco. In this exhibition, Repko simultaneously withholds and reveals, working to solidify the slippery surfaces of memory and make tangible the ephemeral nature of time, space and human connection.

Catherine Repko was born in the United States in 1990. She completed a foundation in Art and Design at Chelsea College of Art, London in 2010 before obtaining a BA in Visual Communication from the University of Brighton in 2013. She graduated with an MA in Painting at the Royal College of Art in 2021. Repko was the recipient of The Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation in 2020 and the Triangle Network Fellowship from The Arts Council England in 2016. She lives and works in London.

The exhibition will be accompanied by an artist's book.

Catherine Repko a new season's dawning

1 December 2023 – 13 January 2024 Private view 30 November, 6–8pm

HUXLEY-PARLOUR 45 Maddox Street, London W1S 4PE

Opening Hours Monday to Friday, 10:00am – 5:30pm Saturdays, 10:00am – 1:30pm Entry is free

More information can be found online at www.huxleyparlour.com