

An abstract painting with a textured, layered appearance. The colors are primarily earthy and muted, including shades of brown, red, orange, and green, with some cooler tones of blue and purple. The brushstrokes are visible and expressive, creating a sense of movement and depth. The overall composition is dense and complex, with various textures and colors blending together.

D. D. D. D.

Peculiar Countenance

Pia Bakala, Grace Bromley,
Gilad Leiba, Alexis E. Mabry,
and Giancarlo Venturini

July 14 - August 20, 2023
Thursday - Sunday 11am - 5pm
Opening July 14, 6 - 8pm

Artwork Preview



Grace Bromley, *A Good Listener*, 2023

Gouache and Oil on Clay Board, 12 x 9 inches

(GB0001)



Grace Bromley, *Tunnel of Love*, 2023

Gouache and Oil on Clay Board, 16 x 20 inches

(GB0002)



Grace Bromley, *Quicksilver*, 2023

Beeswax and artist's hair, 24 x 2 1/2 x 1 inches

(GB0003)



Pia Bakala, *Severed Head of a Transphobe III*, 2023

Oil on panel, 28 x 30 inches

(PB0001)



Gilad Leiba, *Untitled*, 2023

Mixed media on canvas, ready made (jeans) and foam board, 76 x 48 x 5 1/4 inches

(GL0001)



Giancarlo Venturini, *The Graveyard*, 2023

Oil and acrylic on wood panel, 10 x 10 inches

(GV0001)



Alexis E. Mabry, *Spill Trophy*, 2023

Plaster, monotype prints, oil pastel, ink, wig piece, wood, red dye, 21 x 32 x 9 1/2 inches

(AEM0001)



Alexis E. Mabry, *Nose Bleed*, 2023

Copper plate intaglio etching on paper, wood, clay, acrylic, red dye, 6 13/16 x 23 1/4 x 4 3/4 inches

(AEM0002)

Artist Biographies

Pia Bakala (b.1991) is a Richmond, VA based painter who was born in Aurora, Illinois. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting and a Bachelor of Arts in Art History from the Kansas City Art Institute in 2013. She is currently a 2024 MFA Candidate at Virginia Commonwealth University's Department of Painting and Printmaking. Influenced by her personal experiences as a transgender woman, Bakala creates painterly expressions of everyday internal conflicts. In doing so, she examines various cultural preconceptions of trans-femininity, expressions of sexuality, and binaries of nature and artifice.

Grace Bromley (b. 1994, USA) is a Richmond, VA based artist. Born and raised in Chicago, IL, she attended the School of the Art Institute of Chicago with a BFA and a focus in Painting. Her work explores mythological/familial archetypes, gender performativity, and hierarchies within nature, using a sense of fantasy and dark humor. Her work has been shown at Thierry Goldberg Gallery, New Collectors Gallery NYC, Bloom Galerie, St. Tropez, and Spring/Break NYC 2022. She participated in Spring/Break LA 2023 as an independent curator. She is currently attending the MFA program at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Gilad Leiba is an MFA candidate at VCU Department of Painting and Printmaking at Richmond, Virginia. Hailing from Tel Aviv, Israel, Leiba incorporates psychological, historical and religious materials into his body of work, which consists of painting, sculpture and video. Often operating in a stage/prop master-like manner, he investigates how objects and structures that hold their respective meaning, significance and lineage can coincide to mediate a certain - private - human condition. Leiba's works have been shown in Israel and Europe, and his poetry and short prose (in Hebrew) has been published in different platforms.

Alexis E. Mabry (b. 1985) is a mixed media artist born in Dallas, Texas. She received a Bachelors of Fine Art from Texas State University, San Marcos, TX. in 2019. She is a 2024 MFA candidate from the Virginia Commonwealth University's Painting and Printmaking program. Using collage, paint, found objects, and thrifted objects Mabry condenses anecdotes of personal experiences into material imagery that reflects narratives of identity, self expression, escapism, and rebellion. Her research examines personas and social performances, how they are perceived by society and popular culture, and the environments that create them. Finding the idea of a person more compelling when it lives in this popular imagination, with a tenuous connection to lived reality. She collects stories and objects that she encounters in her community and landscape that resonate with these shifting identities.

Giancarlo Venturini (b. 1999, Boonton, NJ) is an artist that lives and works in New Jersey. He attended Mason Gross School of Art and Design at Rutgers University, receiving his bachelors in 2021. His work was featured in Spring/Break LA 2023. He is currently enrolled as an MFA student at Virginia Commonwealth University.