

D. D. D. D.

179 Canal St, Ste 3B/4D
New York, NY 10013

Oidie Kuijpers *Estate Sale*

October 19 – November 26 2023
Opening Reception October 27 2023, 6–8pm

Press Release

The invention of the paint tube gave 19th century artists the freedom to leave their dark studios behind and paint en plein air—sitting at their portable easels under the sky. With the invention of the digital image, artists can now go back inside. Their impressions are immortalized into pixels in the palm of their hands, or somewhere safely in the cloud.

In the artist's first solo exhibition at D. D. D. D., Oidie Kuijpers presents a new grouping of landscapes that both pays homage to the romantic tradition of painting the great outdoors, and shrugs at the imposition of history.

In this body of work, Kuijpers revisits a single subject—trees, light, shadow, reflection, sky. Working with Apple Inc.'s incredible range of devices, he paints from quickly composed photos, captured en plein air. He is faithful to these, blowing up images until the pixels show. And then sometimes, when the overhead light is hitting his shiny touchscreen just right, he photographs the image again and starts a new painting from there. The poor image is degraded, but Kuijpers is seeking beauty where the natural/digital, wild/domestic worlds collapse. Where erroneous flashes of his orange reading light emerge like setting suns, and the sfumato effect is achieved through spiderwebs of fingerprints mucking up the screen.

The principal conceit of his project lies in that moment, where the light on *x* is so good you can't help but whip out your iPhone to memorialize the ephemeral beauty. Motivated partly by instinct, and partly by sentiment. The intended purpose of this image for most is unclear, usually the photographer shoots several versions of the same frame in rapid succession, each one more disappointing than the first.

Kuijpers is interested in the lineage of painters who tried hard but failed repeatedly to depict a universal feeling of being in an environment. The ones who painted about that slippery slope of reality and memory. He gestures hopefully, smacking his head against the blank wooden panels, filling up the surface with anxious brushstrokes that strive for something close to truth.

Artist Biography

Oidie Kuijpers (b. 1993) is a painter based in Brooklyn, New York. Kuijpers makes work which explores representation and investigates painting as a form of critical inquiry. His paintings have been included in exhibitions at Oberlin College, Pace Gallery, New York, and the Pratt Institute. He has an upcoming exhibition at D. D. D. D. in October 2023.

Kuijpers received his MFA from Pratt Institute in 2022.

For more information, please e-mail dante@dddd.pictures