

Exhibition co-curated by Laura Gowen and Rachel Cole

Sara Anstis, Aglaé Bassens, Carine Bovey, Milano Chow, Ryan Driscoll, Genieve Figgis, Gonzalo Fuenmayor, Louise Giovanelli, Brice Guilbert, Asif Hoque, Ewa Juszkiewicz, Sanam Khatibi, Giuliano Macca, Quentin James McCaffrey, Sébastien Mettraux, Emily Marie Miller Coan, Jesse Mockrin, Nicolas Party, Robert Russell, Gretchen Scherer, Jake Wood-Evans, Sofia Yeganeh, Flora Yukhnovich

19 January - 29 April, 2023



Jesse Mockrin, Weep into my eyes, 2019, oil on cotton, 132.1 x 91.4 cm (each), 132.1 x 182.9 cm (total) The artwork is a loan from Mr. Rahul M. Sabhnani. Courtesy of Rachel Cole Art Advisory and Gowen, Geneva. Image: © the Artist, courtesy Night Gallery, Los Angeles and James Cohan, New York

Gowen presents *REVIVAL I - XVIIIe siècle*, the first exhibition in a series which unites over twenty international contemporary artists whose visual language engages with, reimagines, and transforms imagery from the art historical canon. Co-curated by Laura Gowen and New York-based advisor Rachel Cole, the show explores various stylistic and methodological interventions in relation to eighteenth-century aesthetic traditions. Elegant portraiture, conversation pieces, landscapes and the defining mores, trends and events of the era are revisited via ever-changing modes of representation. *REVIVAL I - XVIIIe siècle* aspires to capture the eighteenth-century zeitgeist, connecting the past to contemporary work as a mechanism for understanding and informing about the complexities of the present, whilst laying the groundwork for the future.



The *Revival* exhibitions propose an inquiry into the encounter between art history and the compositional modes of the hyper-present. *Revival* is a provocation. It summons its audience to contemplate the interplay between history, memory and living expression; between the past and the present; and between various, dynamic modes of genre, composition and performance. Changes in modes of representation have often been linked to political, economic and socio-cultural conditions, or to historical events and catastrophes, creating the demand for collective memory through visual production. The reemergence and appropriation of the past in art historical movements necessarily reflects shifts in power, perspective and ideology. Those shifts become the focal point of the exhibition series. *Revival* contends that the revisiting of art history in contemporary compositions extends opportunities for pertinent examinations of the present.

Through various stylistic and methodological interventions, the contemporary artists included in the inaugural exhibition *REVIVAL I - XVIIIe siècle* embrace eighteenth-century references to conceive new aesthetic vernaculars. The show emerges against the backdrop of an epoque that bore witness to the scientific, intellectual and art historical transformations initiated by the Age of Enlightenment. A century of power and of revolution, it was a time of radical breaks with tradition. Equally, it was the century of colonialism, via imperialism, and thus the rise of the potent notions of 'possession' and 'power' across nations and of individuals. These fomenting political forces merged concurrently with developments in aesthetic traditions: Art History and Archeology were established as disciplines, ancient histories were unearthed and excavated, and the growing bourgeoisie and merchant classes became consumed by an interest in tourism and the "Grand Tour".

The works in *REVIVAL I - XVIIIe siècle* reveal certain parallels between contemporary artists and the art of the past. The eighteenth-century tradition of elegant portraiture is reflected in the contemporary interpretations of Ewa Juszkiewicz, Jesse Mockrin, Jake Wood-Evans and Giuliano Macca. Trends in tourism and commerce, and subsequent increased foreign trade as well as the production of porcelain and differentiating style are explored in the work of Asif Hoque and Robert Russell. Over the course of the century, the decorative style of Rococo — referenced in the work of Flora Yukhnovich, Sofia Yeganeh, Jesse Mockrin, Carine Bovey and Sara Anstis — was addressed by the Greco-Roman revival via Neoclassicism, now reinterpreted in the work of Asif Hoque and Ryan Driscoll. Conversation portraits and genre scenes are handled by Genieve Figgis and Emily Marie Miller Coan while Louise Giovanelli and Jesse Mockrin depict the era's decadent fabrics and textures. The increasingly popular landscape tradition defined during the eighteenth century and differentiated into several categories, is represented in contemporary compositions: the picturesque landscape, here shown in the work of Sanam Khatibi, Nicolas Party

and Sébastien Mettraux; and the sublime landscape, revisited in the volcanoes of Brice Guilbert and Ryan Driscoll. Finally, the decadent baroque or rigid, neoclassical interiors and exteriors take form in the work of Gretchen Scherer, Quentin James McCaffrey, Milano Chow, Gonzalo Fuenmayor and Aglaé Bassens.

By presenting diverse works in direct conversation, *REVIVAL I - XVIIIe siècle* seeks to capture the spirit of an era, as a means of educating and informing its audience, elucidating the intricacies of the period, while simultaneously challenging their perceptions of the present. The exhibition is further elaborated by a parallel revival: the selected artists draw upon the era's themes in the same way that eighteenth-century artists reverted to references borrowed from classical antiquity. In both cases, the harnessing of the past to contemporary work serves as a mechanism for understanding, and acceptance of the complexities of the present, simultaneously laying the groundwork for the future.









Aglaé Bassens (Belgian, 1986)

Parisian Ceiling, 2020

Oil on canvas
61 x 91.4 cm
24 x 36 in
AB 001





- Installation view. *Revival I - XVIIIe siècle*. 2023. Gowen. Geneva



Milano Chow (American, 1987)
Facade (Intimates), 2020-2021
Graphite, ink, acrylic and photo transfer on paper
71.1 x 38.1 cm
28 x 15 in
MC 01



Gonzalo Fuenmayor (Colombian, 1977) *Collapse*, 2022 Charcoal on paper 76.2 x 57.1 cm. 30 x 22.5 in GF 001



Ryan Driscoll (British, 1992) Jupiter, 2020 Watercolor on paper Unframed: 41 x 31 cm 16.1 x 12.2 in Framed: 49 x 38,5 cm 19.3 x 151.6 in RD 01



Genieve Figgis (Irish, 1972)

Music in the park, 2018

Acrylic on canvas

120 x 100 x 2 cm

47.2 x 39.4 x .8 in

GF 01







Carine Bovey (Swiss, 1985)

Stagnum vitae, 2022

Oil on canvas

95 cm Ø

37.4 in Ø

CB 24



Sanam Khatibi (Belgian, 1979)

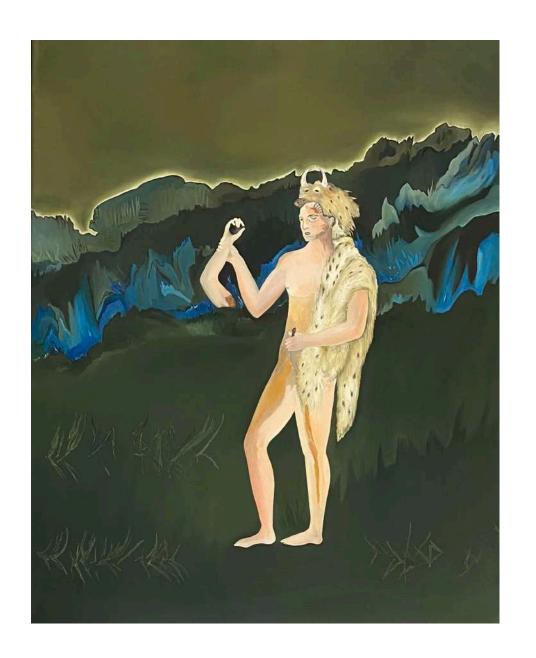
Fantastic Beasts, 2019

Oil and pencil on canvas

180 x 230 cm

70.9 x 90.6 in

SK 01



Sanam Khatibi (Belgian, 1979)

Both Man and Bird and Beast, 2019

Oil on panel

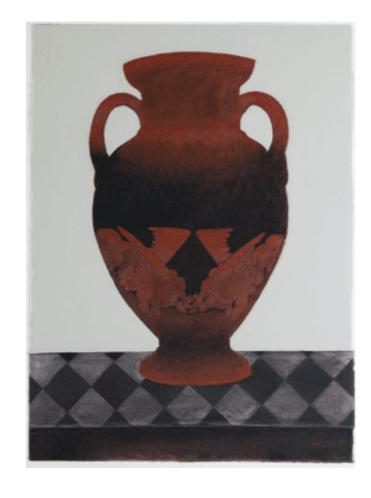
50 x 40 cm

19.7 x 15.7 in

SK 02







Asif Hoque (Bangladeshi-American, 1991) 11:00 PM, 2020 Conte Crayon on toned Arches Paper Unframed: 76.2 x 57.2 cm 30 x 22.5 in Framed: 86 x 67 cm 33.9 x 26.4 in AH 01

Asif Hoque (Bangladeshi-American, 1991)

12:00 AM, 2020

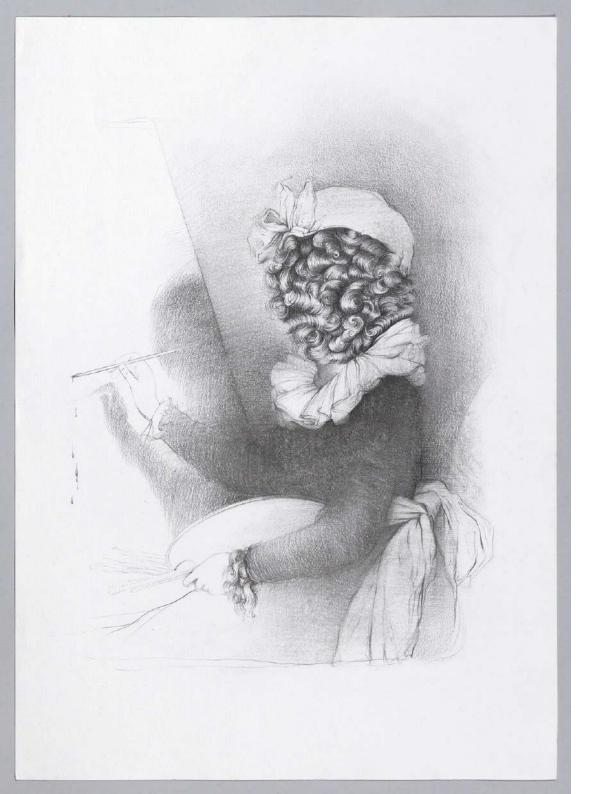
Conte Crayon on toned Arches Paper

Unframed: 76.2 x 57.2 cm

30 x 22.5 in

AH 02

Not on view



Ewa Juszkiewicz (Polish, 1984) *Untitled*, 2011

Pencil on paper

58 x 43 cm

22.8 x 16.9 in

EJ 002

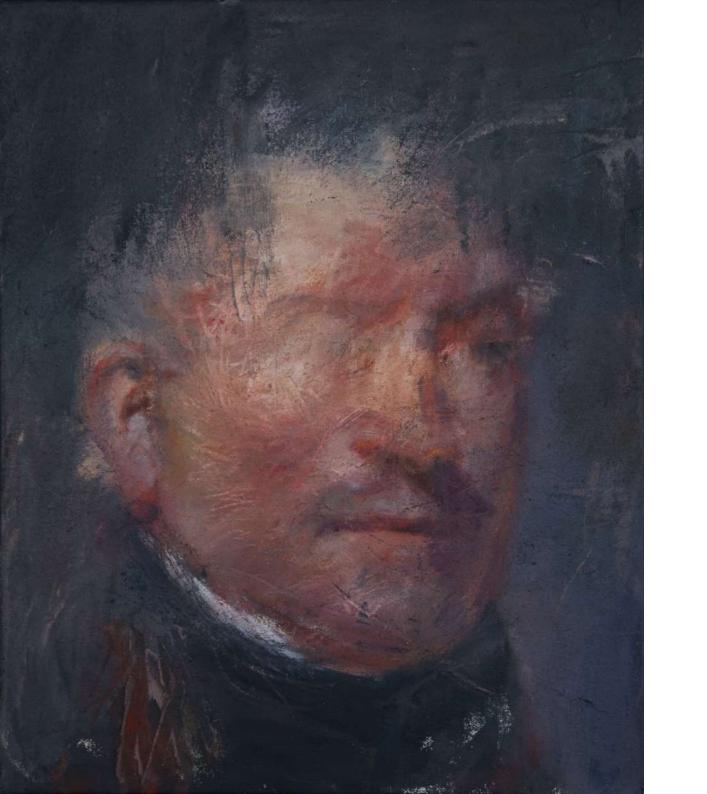


Ewa Juszkiewicz (Polish, 1984) *Untitled*, 2020
Oil on canvas
80 x 65 cm.
31.5 x 25.6 in
EJ 001





Giuliano Macca (Italian, 1988) Escape, 2022 Oil on canvas 185 x 140 cm 72.8 x 55.1 in GM 49



Jake Wood-Evans (British, 1980)

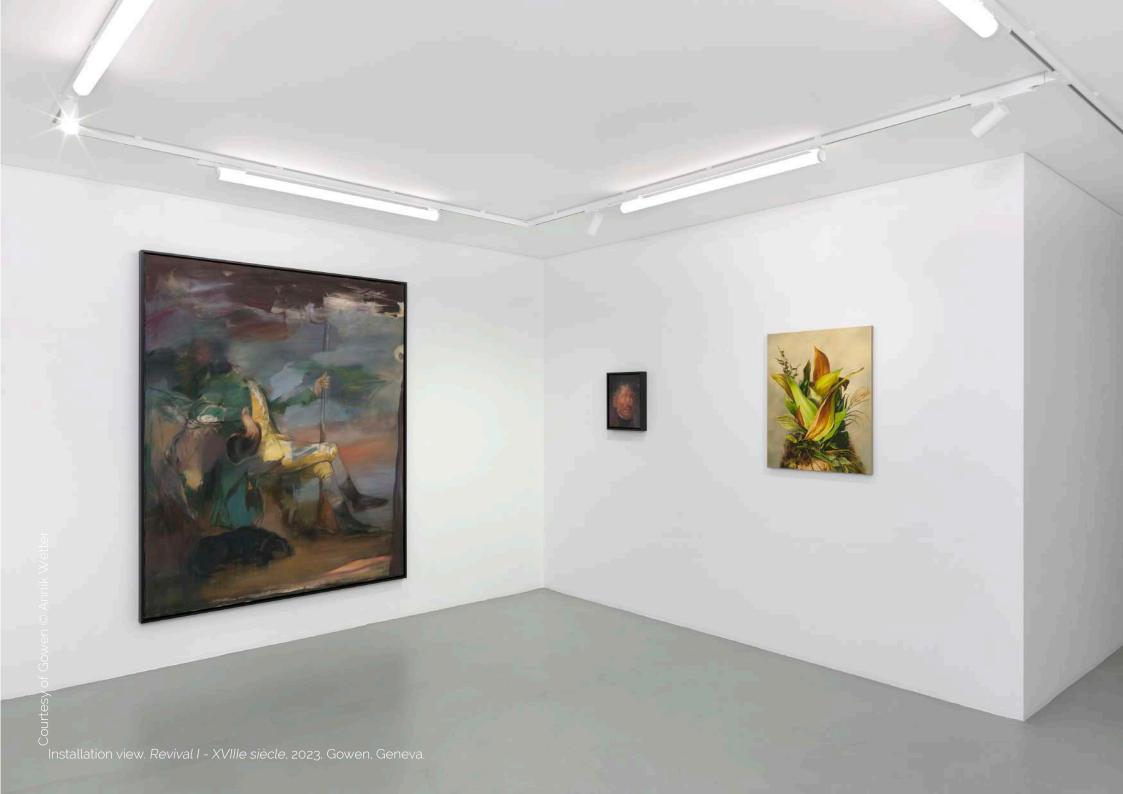
Portrait of a Lieutenant General after William Beechey, 2022

Oil on canvas

37 x 30 cm

14.6 x 11.8 in

JWE 02





Jake Wood-Evans (British, 1980)
Thomas Graham, Baron Lynedoth, after David Allan, 2022
Oil on linen
200 x 160 cm
78.7 x 63 in
JWE 001



Ewa Juszkiewicz (Polish, 1984) *Untitled*, 2020

Oil on canvas

80 x 65 cm.

31.5 x 25.6 in

EJ 003





Jesse Mockrin (American, 1981)

Weep into my eyes, 2019

Oil on cotton

132.1 x 91.4 cm Each

52 x 36 in Each

132.1 x 182.9 cm Overall

52 x 72 in Overall

JM 04



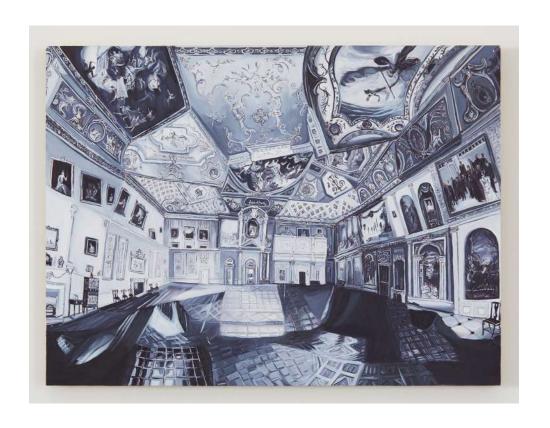
Louise Giovanelli (British, 1993) *Pool*, 2020

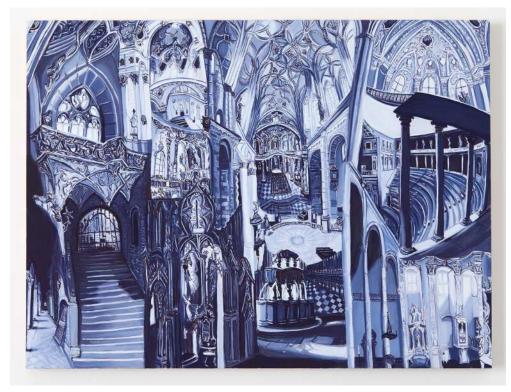
Oil on canvas

100 x 70 x 4 cm

39.4 x 27.6 x 1.6 in

LG 01

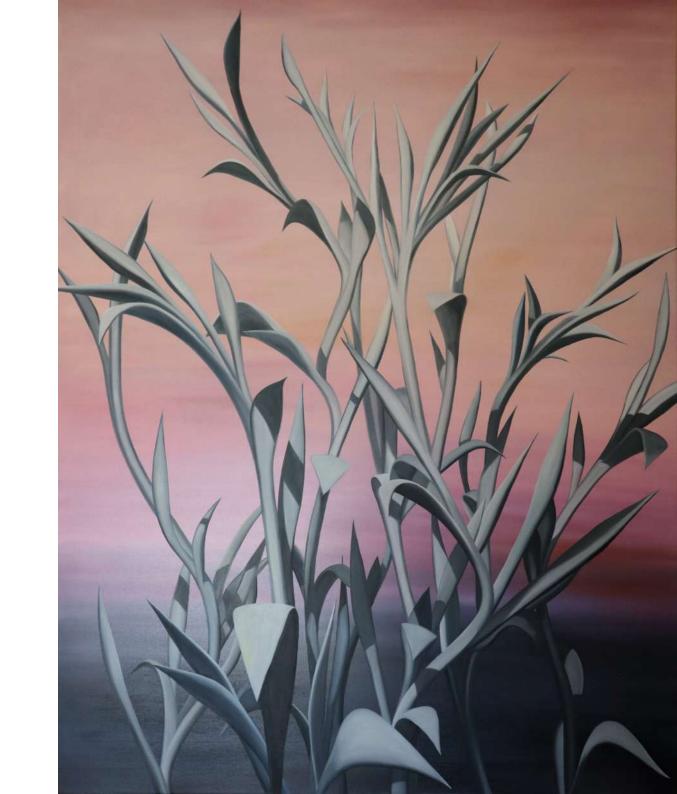




Gretchen Scherer (American, 1979)
The Great Hall, 2017
Oil on panel
45.7 x 61 cm.
18 x 24 in
GrS 001

Gretchen Scherer (American, 1979)
Tower of the Forest, 2017
Oil on panel
45.7 x 61 cm.
18 x 24 in
GrS 002

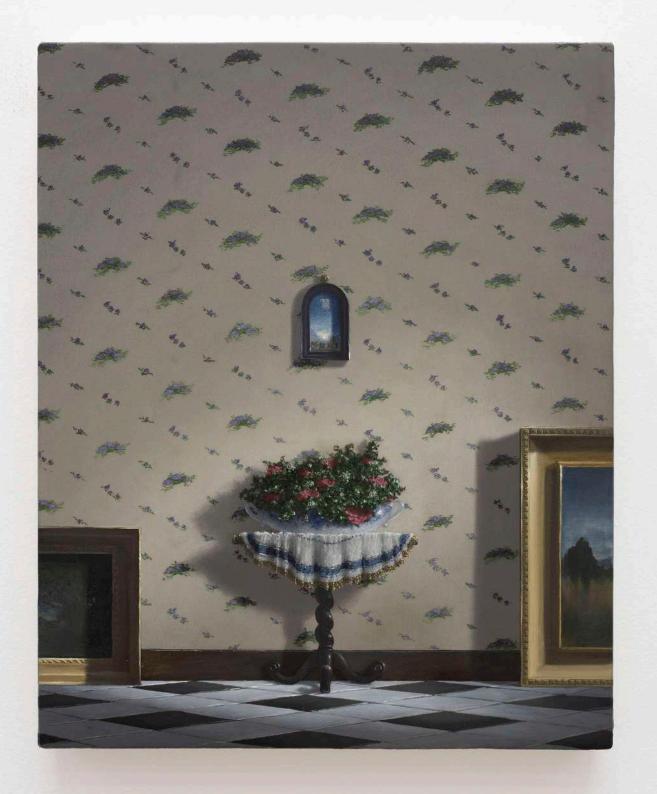




Sébastien Mettraux (Swiss, 1984) In Silico 24, 2022 Oil on canvas 180 x 140 cm 70.9 x 55.1 in SM 0140



Flora Yukhnovich (British, 1990)
Study, 2021
Oil on paper
29 x 20.6 cm
11.4 x 8.1 in
FY 01



Quentin James McCaffrey (American, 1987)

Landscapes with Pot-et-fleur, 2022

Oil on canvas over wood panel

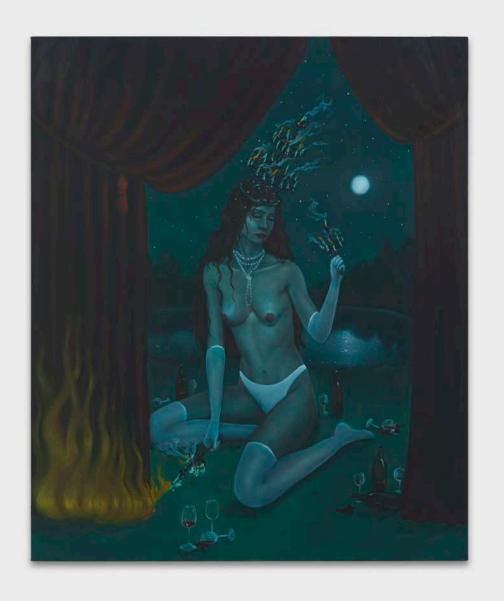
34.29 x 27.94 cm.

13.5 x 11 in

QMC 001



Robert Russell (American, 1971) *Teacup #29*, 2021
Oil on canvas
177.8 x 177.8 cm.
70 x 70 in
RoR 001



Emily Marie Miller Coan (American, 1991)

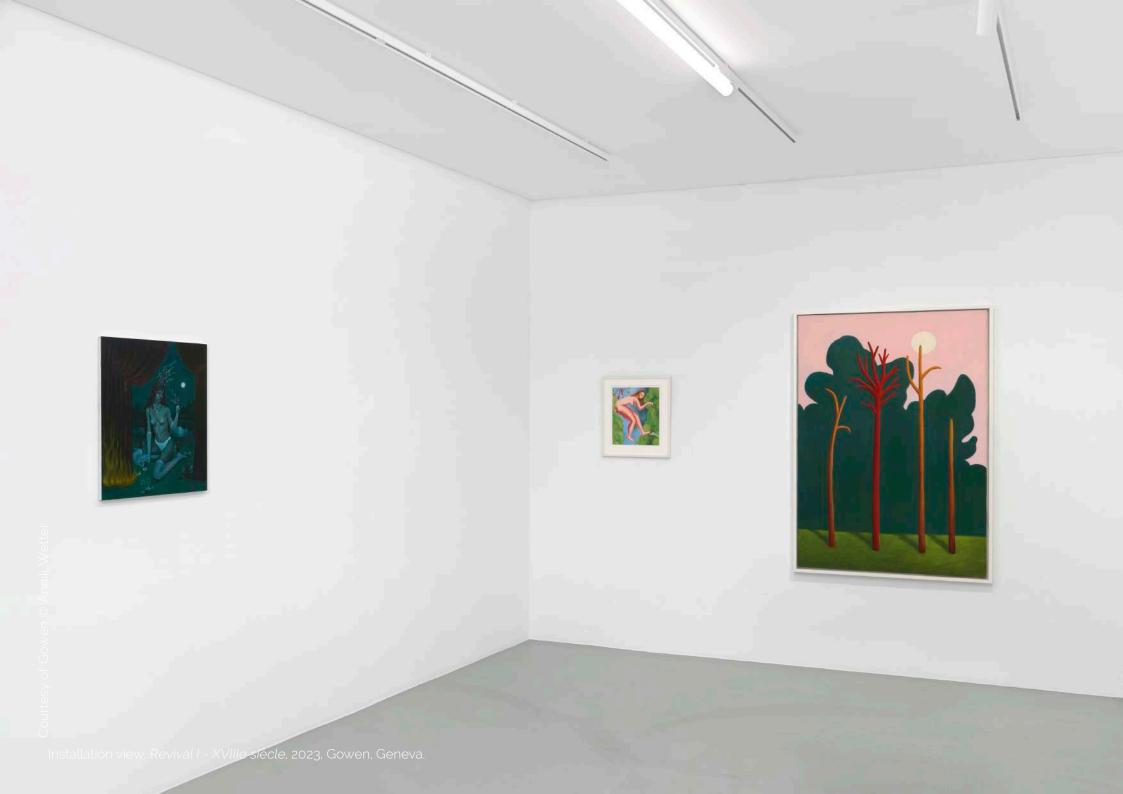
Burnout, 2022

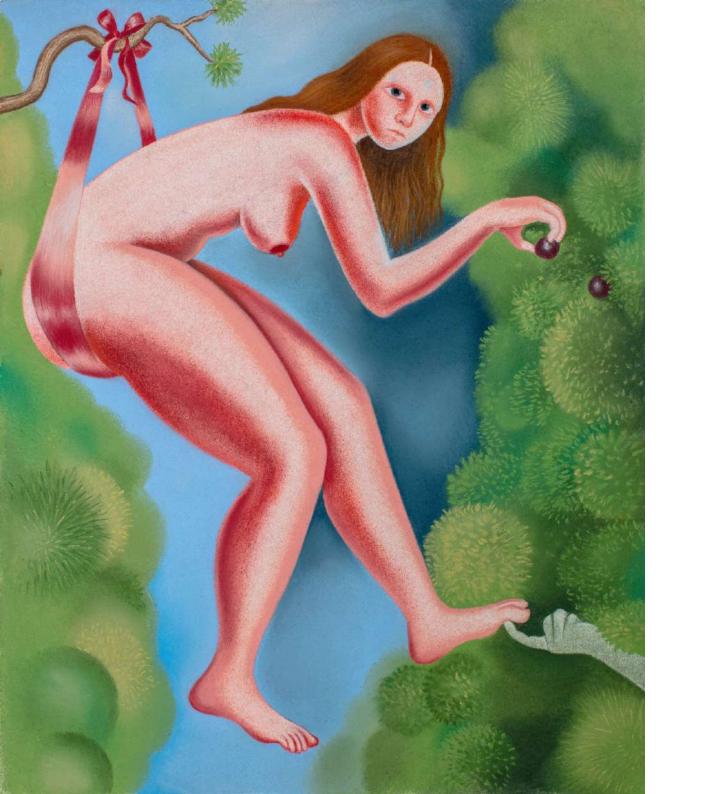
Oil on linen
61 x 50.8 cm
24 x 20 in
MC 001





Sébastien Mettraux (Swiss, 1984) Ex Codice #10, 2022 Oil on canvas 180 x 140 cm 70.9 x 55.1 in SM 0138





Sara Anstis (Swedish, 1991)

Plums, 2020

Soft pastel on paper

37 x 30 cm

14.6 x 11.8 in

SA 01



Sofia Yeganeh (British, 1996)

Revival xxxx, 2022

Embroidery and paint on hand dyed canvas
50 x 60 cm
19.7 x 23.6 in
SY 01

