

NIGHT GALLERY

2276 E. 16th Street, Los Angeles, California 90021 nightgallery.ca

CLAIRE TABOURET

The Pull of the Sun

February 15 – March 21, 2020

Night Gallery is pleased to present Claire Tabouret's *The Pull of the Sun*, a solo exhibition of new paintings and works on paper. This is the artist's second exhibition at Night Gallery, following *Eclipse* in January 2017.

Across her work, Claire Tabouret has explored the continued life of the figure in painting. Working within a history-spanning style that builds up sweeping compositions atop fluorescent underpainting, the works have frequently presented tableaux lost in time: nomads wandering deserts, children wrestling, lovers locked in embrace. At once gestural and graphic, Tabouret's style pairs anachronistic impulses to create works that are irreducibly alive, reinvigorating traditions of figurative painting through a distinctly contemporary play of form and color. In their immediacy, the works speak to a renewed power of figurative painting in the 21st century, animated by a uniquely intimate quality.

In her forthcoming exhibition at Night Gallery, Tabouret turns her attention to the people in her own life. While previous series have adapted images from found photographs, creating generalized subjects, these new paintings and works on paper present portraits of individuals whose postures and expressions convey their connections to the artist, echoed by the illustrative flourishes that accentuate those relationships. Indeed, the artist describes the act of painting as an act of care and a moment of profound empathy between artist and subject. Animals appear in many compositions, underscoring the series' spirit of compassion, relying not on language but on the communicative potential of physicality. Taking up the Impressionists' interest in daily life, Tabouret finds the romance and tenderness in everyday experience. Meanwhile, the graphic innovations of her works on paper – which hearken in equal parts to turn-of-the-century illustration, Japanese woodblock prints, and Pop Art experiments of the 1960s – push the limits of representation, paring down forms and boldly placing muted tones over neons, while remaining tethered to the lived reality from which the works emerge.

A homecoming exhibition for an artist of international renown, *The Pull of the Sun* is the artist's testament to painting as a means of exploring one's own life, collapsing visual histories toward a vibrant and heartfelt portrait of her present.

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Claire Tabouret (b. 1981, Pertuis, France) has recently had solo exhibitions at HAB Galerie, Nantes, France; Almine Rech Gallery, Paris and London; Perrotin Gallery, Hong Kong; Collection Lambert, Avignon, France; Night Gallery, Los Angeles; The YUZ Museum, Shanghai; Friche La Belle de Mai, Marseille, France; and Galerie Bugada & Cargnel, Paris; as well as a two-person exhibition with Yoko Ono at Villa Medici, Rome, Italy. Recent group exhibitions include the Musée des Beaux-Arts, Saint-Lô, France; Palazzo Fruscione, Salerno, Italy; The Drawing Center, New York; the Palazzo Grassi, Venice; the Maison Guerlain, Paris; and the Galerie du Jour Agnès b, Paris. Her work has been acquired by major collections and is notably part of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), the YUZ Museum, the Pinault Collection, the Agnès b Collection, Collection Lambert, and FRAC Auvergne, among others. She lives and works in Los Angeles.