

MIGUEL ABREU GALLERY

KATE MOSHER HALL

The work of Kate Mosher Hall inhabits the charged space of reciprocal looking, activating a locus of estrangement present in any shared visual encounter and amplifying it. Through an interplay of two primary modes of image production—silkscreen printing and painting—she manages to suspend the medium specificities of either address as a way of playfully exploiting the uncertainties inherent to any act of looking. Her images share an elusive, ‘hidden-in-plain-sight’ effect, but one that operates through an unavoidable visual regress: flashes of discernment quickly withdraw into instances of misrecognition. At the same time, visual identifications are retained as hovering or buried afterimages. The experience is akin to both seeing and not seeing at once, stimulating an awareness of looking siloed by the limits of perspectival bias, the strange over-exposure of seeing oneself seeing. The pictures aspire to the status of an image capable of possessing our visual agency not unlike a reflexive hypnosis.

“I use strategies in my work,” says the artist, “to create dynamics of how we look at images or also maybe – how images look back. Some of these strategies are that I print in different resolutions that make different parts of a painting be seen at different proximities so there are different reveals or different timings. I think about hierarchies in an image, for example how a part can be presented or obfuscated and how that changes a viewer’s response to what they are looking at. I am interested in the mechanics of an image.”

Mosher Hall’s methods are negatively accumulative, proceeding from various archival image banks through a careful craft of degradation and obfuscation, defamiliarizing a given image in the direction of short-circuiting the primacy of perceptual command. Staging an image at the remote end of our visual field through means of compositional displacement, she constructs vantages that seem to glimpse, as if at the threshold of a lucid dream, a familiar real from an undefinable outside. What her work gathers as a result is a kind of anti – or counter-archive that preserves only the optical realities or spectral residues left over by the hysterical circulation of contemporary cultural media, the psycho-sensory effects underpinning current visual cultures deranged from the objects and environments that enact them.

Material interventions at the level of image production, Mosher Hall’s paintings seem to insist, are surrogate procedures for shifting our senses, stimuli for the reconfiguration of our sensual realities capable of transforming the apparently ‘natural’ confines of individual perception.

Kate Mosher Hall (b. 1986, Los Angeles) lives and works in Los Angeles. She received her MFA from UCLA (2020), and her BFA from the California Institute of the Arts (2013). Solo exhibitions include The Reminder, curated by Kristy Trinier, Audain Gallery, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada (2023); Offset, Tanya Leighton, Berlin (2021); Without a body, without Bill, Hannah Hoffman Gallery (2021); LOQK, Artist Curated Projects (2019); and Wind Breaker, Phil Gallery (2019), all in Los Angeles. Notable group exhibitions include Kate Mosher Hall, Fionna Connor, and Bedros Yeretizian, Coastal Signs, Auckland, New Zealand (2023); Something or Other, Galerie Maria Bernheim, Zurich (2023); The Painter’s New Tools, curated by Dean Kissick and Eleanor Cayre, Nahmad Contemporary, New York (2022); and K as in Knight, Helena Anrather, New York (2021). Her work is in the permanent collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and Rollins Museum of Art.

Mosher Hall’s first exhibition with Miguel Abreu Gallery, Big View, was held at the gallery in September 2023.

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KATE MOSHER HALL

Born in Los Angeles, CA, 1986
Lives and works in Los Angeles, CA

EDUCATION

2020

Master of Fine Arts, UCLA Art, Los Angeles, CA

2013

Bachelor of Fine Arts, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA

SELECTED SOLO & TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2023

Big View, Miguel Abreu Gallery, New York
The Reminder, Audain Gallery, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, BC, Canada

2021

Offset, Tanya Leighton Gallery, Berlin, Germany
Without a body, without Bill, Hannah Hoffman, Los Angeles, CA

2019

LOQK, Artist Curated Projects, Los Angeles, CA
Wind Breaker, Phil Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

2017

Glass Cat, with Andrew Cannon, 67 Ludlow, New York

2016

Listen to the Distance Between Us, Permanently Closed, Los Angeles, CA
Sitter, with Paul Mpagi Sepuya, Central Park Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

2015

Dragging The Sky to Shore, with Jason Yates, Roberts and Tilton Gallery, Culver City, CA

2013

Out of the Blue, CalArts Main Gallery, Valencia, CA
Now Open for 24hrs, with John Wiese, Human Resources Gallery, Los Angeles CA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023

Kate Mosher Hall, Fiona Connor, and Bedros Yeretian, Coastal Signs, Auckland, New Zealand
Imperfect Paradise, Barbati Gallery, Venezia, Italy

2022

The American Friend, Downs and Ross, New York
The Painter's New Tools, Nahmad Contemporary, New York

2021

K as in Knight, Helena Anrather, New York, NY

2019

Last Call, The Gallery at Michael's, Santa Monica, CA
The Sun is Also a Star, Artist Curated Projects, Los Angeles, CA

2018

Eyes of March, Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

2016

Domestic Observations, Jace Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Why Leave Earth, Phil Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Grand Opening, Golden Spike, Los Angeles, CA
Sim City, Marfa Ballroom, Marfa, TX
Halftime in America, Arturo Bandini, Los Angeles, CA

2015

The Outside Museum, curated by Portland Museum of Modern Art & Thousand Points of Light.
High Desert, CA

2014

Friday Night Flights, curated by Liars, Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA
Another Cats Show, 356 S. Mission. Los Angeles, CA
Dopp's, Calvin Marcus Studio and 356 S. Mission, Los Angeles, CA
Popular Panorama, Secret Recipe, Los Angeles, CA

2012

11 Video Screening Dunes, Human Resources, Los Angeles, CA
Welcome Home 30 Year Woman House Anniversary, CalArts Main Gallery, Valencia, CA

2008

No Age Show, Tiny Creatures Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

2005 - 2007

Mika Miko World Tour