

Press Release

17 (Hamed Maiye)

Exhibition: 01st February–01st March, 2022

Address: PM/AM, Online

Following a period of focused work on residency in London, PM/AM are delighted to open an online presentation featuring work by Hamed Maiye. During this time the artist has expanded the already vast scope of his work, which has covered painting, photography, film making, textiles and installation art. Hamed himself maintains that despite his creative range he is first and foremost a painter, and the body of work he has produced follows this line. When discussing his artwork, Hamed Maiye takes on the role of a philosophical magician, concerned with the experience of conscious reality from the perspective of the individual and collective mind. As esoteric as this may sound, when he is painting –in his own words– is when he feels the most human.

He is driven by a kind of cultural anthropology, targeted at the Afro-Caribbean diaspora and in parallel with the movement he calls ‘Afro-Portraiture’. This concept takes a wide view of a specific group of people to which Hamed is connected, whilst allowing for a significant degree of self-reflection, and echoing the twin scopes through which he examines his subjects.

The work in this exhibition calls into question what lies beyond the corporeality of flesh. The oil paint, pastels, chalk and lace prints are tools through which visitors from the spirit world are analysed and our differences with them measured. We find through this a level of interplay, deftly abandoning absolute ideas that hold the body and the spirit apart. This concept echoes the root of a particular area that Hamed has studied during the residency, the common themes that can be found in revisionist Westerns. In these our classic, polarised notions are twisted and inverted; villains become heroes, ideas of what can be considered ‘good’ and ‘bad’ are ill defined.

In his body print work this sense of crumbling definition crumbling, of in between spaces, is most clearly evident. The process involves various oil-based substances and dry pigments applied to the painting surface using his own physical form, creating a result that is partly an artwork and partly a record of a performative act. The figure appears caught in the process of shape shifting, the core of its identity and psychology exposed for questioning.

We are proud to have provided an opportunity for the artist to follow his new investigations, and look forward to the responses within the international contemporary art community.

Notes To Editors

Hamed Maiye works with a range of materials and processes, creating pieces that explore identity, memory and the various ways we attempt to understand and discuss the world around us. He is guided by a desire to decouple ourselves from the limits of language and categorisation, instead focusing on malleability and esoteric concepts like magic and mysticism. Viewing his work allows us to experience a realm of apparitions, shape shifting characters, and numerous permutations of the artist himself.

Hamed's work is broadly speaking multidisciplinary and as such has appeared in various contexts including notable presentations at the V&A, Tate Britain and Horniman Museum.

The artist will be available for interviews and studio visits. Please contact us at the address below for further information.

About PM/AM

PM/AM is a contemporary art gallery repositioned to reflect how we engage with art today. The gallery acts as a conduit outside of traditional models, connecting artists to audiences of curators, institutions, writers, collectors and art lovers. The gallery's core program delivers a range of exhibitions, events, and engagement on and offline—promoting a curated selection of emerging and underrepresented contemporary art. Existing between project space, art advisory, and online platform, PM/AM's online presence forms the foundation of its community.

www.pmam.org

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