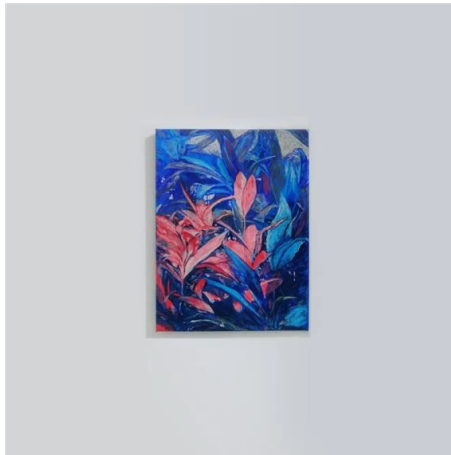


Tobe KAN Kiu Sin: Panacea

Gallery Exit

📍 ABERDEEN | HONG KONG

SEP 25, 2021 - OCT 30, 2021



This exhibition features a new series of plant paintings and three-dimensional works by Kan. Most of the large format works were completed in the artist's studio under self-isolation during the most severe period of the epidemic, while the smaller works were made as a kind of remedy to calm the mind and restore health when the situation was relatively more stable, and around the time when the artist underwent a small operation. The word "panacea" originates from the Greek Panakeia, a goddess of universal remedy in Greek mythology, which also means a solution or remedy for all difficulties or diseases. When in states of stagnation and uncertainty, the artist believes more than ever in the ability of artistic creation to relieve stress and anxiety. But is art really a panacea?

Kan has been researching the imagery and significance of the colour blue in psychology, everyday life, popular culture and literature: Blue masks, Three Colours: Blue by Krzysztof Kieślowski, Blue by Derek Jarman, Perfect Blue by Satoshi Kon, Blue Period by Japanese manga artist Tsubasa Yamaguchi, inspired by Picasso, in which a character says, "If you see blue, no matter it is an apple or a rabbit, just paint it blue."

From photographs taken of plants near her studio and in different temples, to found images of films or news reportages, Kan assembles into her paintings a certain languid state, hovering between reality and dream, such that the viewers find themselves lost amidst an illusory blue jungle. A Dream and 《Enraptured by this sight, he woke up》 pay tribute to the late artist Matthew Wong, who had himself made a series of blue paintings. In the process of creating these two works, as she was listening to the audiobook of Franz Kafka's short story "A Dream" and upon hearing how the male protagonist strolled towards the graveyard and met an artist, Kan decided to name the two paintings after the title and the last sentence of the story respectively. She only found out later that Wong had also made a painting titled A Dream. Several other works are also named after Kafka's works. By connecting the imaginations between the imagery of text and image and the viewers' own experience, Kan attempts to draw the viewers into an illusion that is both ambiguous and absurd.

Artists on show

Kan Kiu Sin Tobe

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[VIEW ON MAP](#)

What's on nearby



William Kentridge: Weigh All Tears

HAUSER & WIRTH, HONG KONG

 CENTRAL | HONG KONG

MAR 17, 2022 - MAY 29, 2022



Cerith Wyn Evans:)(of, a clearing

WHITE CUBE, HONG KONG

 CENTRAL | HONG KONG

JAN 21, 2022 - MAR 26, 2022



Jules de Balincourt: Birds on a Boat

PACE HONG KONG (80 QUEEN'S ROAD)

 CENTRAL | HONG KONG

MAR 17, 2022 - APR 28, 2022