

GALERIE NATHALIE OBADIA

PARIS - BRUXELLES

Enoc Perez

10 June — 25 July 2015

3, rue du Cloître Saint-Merri, 75004 Paris



ENOC PEREZ, UNTITLED (INSTAGRAM), 2014
OIL ON CANVAS
152 X 122 CM

The Galerie Nathalie Obadia is pleased to present the new series of paintings by Enoc Perez during its fourth collaboration with the American painter born in Puerto Rico in 1967.

While the two last exhibitions organized by the Galerie in Paris in 2013 and in Brussels in 2011 prevalently presented the artist's architectures and sculptures inspired by the modernist utopia, his nostalgia for Puerto Rican culture and the atmosphere of the grand hotels, this new exhibition is a collection of female portraits with an intentional Picassian influence, characterized by direct citations of paintings by the modern master, and an open tribute to the artist who was also a great lover of women.

"In these paintings, Picasso's body of work becomes a pictorial genre, like portraiture, landscapes and still lifes", explains Perez, who used photographic self-portraits posted by women on social networks (Instagram, Twitter) as the basis for his variations on the work of Picasso. Anonymous faces, new digital muses metamorphose into Olgas, Marie-Thérèses, Doras and Jacqueline in the silvery, monochrome palette of Enoc Perez. This approach is founded on resolving the contradiction between the feminine manner in which the women present themselves and the resolutely masculine gaze that Picasso cast on his subjects, which alternated between desire, cruelty and tenderness.

"For me, painting has the capacity to offer conflicting visions of the world while preserving its power", explains Perez, who, with this new series of paintings, attempts to reinvent Cubism in the moment of Instagram, Facebook and other social networks.



ENOC PEREZ, UNTITLED (INSTAGRAM), 2014
OIL ON CANVAS
152,5 X 122 CM



ENOC PEREZ, UNTITLED (TRASHER), 2014
OIL ON CANVAS
152,5 X 122 CM

“Like many other artists – Lichtenstein, Julian Schnabel, Richard Prince and many others – I always wanted to paint my own Picassos, I just had to find a means”, he says. “I wanted to represent the photos and paintings with a certain aggressiveness, in a very direct manner but without cruelty: and it had to resemble our moment in time”.

Intensely physical, these portraits of women made with a saturated palette, the pictorial matter hatched and scratched, reveal the long investment put into their creation, with layers of paint added in the manner of silkscreening. The nudity of the bodies is lost in the pictorial palimpsest that gives up an image rendered in deep, electric tonalities like an engraving.

Enoc Perez was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico in 1967 where he remained until the end of his adolescence. He moved to New York in 1986 where he lives and works today. He graduated from the Pratt Institute (New York) in 1990 and studied a Master's degree at Hunter College (New York) in 1992. During the '90s, with John Currin and Elizabeth Peyton he was part of the movement to re-establish figuration in American painting. Since the mid-1990s he has exhibited in many institutions, in particular in “Skyscraper: Art and Architecture Against Gravity” in 2012 at the MOCA (Museum of Contemporary Art) in Chicago, and at the prestigious Corcoran Gallery in Washington, which devoted a very beautiful personal exhibition to his work, “Utopia” in 2012.

The works of Enoc Perez are to be found in many renowned private and public collections, amongst which the Metropolitan Museum (New York), the MOCA (Miami), the British Museum (London), the SF Moma (San Francisco), the Whitney Museum of American Art (New York) and the Hammer Museum (Los Angeles).

	Galerie Nathalie Obadia	
Paris Bourg-Tibourg	Paris Cloître Saint-Merri	Bruxelles
	Nicola Tyson	
Patrick Faigenbaum	Espace II	Summer exhibition (Group Show)
10 June - 25 July 2015	10 June - 25 July 2015	5 June – 25 July 2015
Opening on September, 10th	Opening on September, 10th	
	Eugène Leroy	
Rina Banerjee	5 September - 31 October 2015	Meuser
12 September - 25 October 2015	Opening on September, 5th	9 September - 24 October 2015
Opening on September, 12th		Opening on September, 9th

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