

NICODIM

Georgina Gratrix: The Pleasure is Mine

October 24 – December 5, 2020

Los Angeles

Georgina Gratrix: The Pleasure is Mine and *Georgina Gratrix: Nine Weeks* are the South African artist's first solo exhibitions Stateside. They open concurrently at Nicodim and Nicodim Upstairs in Los Angeles this Saturday, October 24, by appointment.

Most frequently employed as a genteel response to "it's a pleasure to meet you," the phrase "the pleasure is mine" possesses a distinctly old-world quality. It harkens to a time when women would curtsy, men bowed and kissed hands, no one wore white after Labor Day, and ladies sipped tea with their pinkies outstretched. Today, folks have a sort of rote acknowledgment of these dated social constructions committed to muscle memory, but no real-world cognizance of their actual purpose or meaning. Georgina Gratrix's work is not concerned with those days, however, but rather the present's interpretation of those days, when history is viewed through the lens of a Google browser and context is nonexistent.

Gratrix's *The Pleasure is Mine* delights in the awkward, charming clumsiness of attempting to mind one's manners in the present day, when manners are all but obsolete. The gallery is an anarchic arrangement of colorful canvases in Gratrix's signature heavy impasto, paying homage to her contemporary inspirations and the canonical masters that preceded her with equal credence. Hypothetical rock bands, television stars, and people no one likes are portrayed with the joyful irreverence of an alien being seeing such creatures for the first time. Massive, larger-than-still-lives nod to that historical tradition, while the artist joyfully depicts members of the 1998 Chicago Bulls championship team with the same vigor. Her "The Three Graces" are as much Ab-Fab as they are Raphael or Rubens. Having freed herself from the confines of strict representation as dictated by linear academia, the pleasure, really, is all hers.

Georgina Gratrix (b. 1982, Mexico City, Mexico) grew up in Durban, South Africa. She specialized in painting at Michaelis School of Fine Art, University of Cape Town, and graduated in 2005. Gratrix was recently awarded the Discovery Prize at the 50th Anniversary edition of Art Brussels for her presentation with SMAC Gallery. She is a recipient of the Ampersand Fellowship Award, and completed her residency at the Ampersand Foundation in New York City in 2018. Recent exhibitions include *Recent Acquisitions by the Homestead Collection*, Norval Foundation, Cape Town (2020); *Hollywood Babylon: A Re-Inauguration of the Pleasure Dome*, presented by Jeffrey Deitch, Nicodim Gallery, and AUTRE Magazine, (2020); *Skin Stealers*, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles (2019); *Punch*, Jeffrey Deitch, Los Angeles, (2019); *Everybody loves the sunshine*, Plus One Gallery, Antwerp, Belgium (2018); *On Repeat*, SMAC Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa (2017, solo); *Puppy Love*, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa (2016, solo); and *Thinking, Feeling, Head, Heart*, curated by Marilyn Martin, New Church Museum, Cape Town, South Africa (2015).

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Arrangement in Lacoste, 2020
oil on canvas
29.3 x 25.8 in
74.5 x 65.5 cm



Still Life with Starling, 2020
oil on canvas
29.3 x 25.4 in
74.5 x 64.5 cm



Unlikely Ambassador, 2020
oil on canvas
35.5 x 27.5 in
90 x 70 cm



Little Clown, 2020
oil on canvas
21.7 x 17.7 in
55 x 45 cm



A Critic, a Fan, and an Iconoclast (in no particular order), 2020
oil on canvas
18.1 x 22 in
46 x 56 cm



Study of Pink Couch, 2020
oil on canvas
17.7 x 21.7 in
45 x 55 cm



Scotty, 2020
oil on canvas
23.6 x 17.9 in
60 x 45.5 cm



Beach Bather, 2020
oil on canvas
21.7 x 17.7 in
55 x 45 cm

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Quarantine Look, 2020
oil on canvas
28 x 23.6 in
71 x 60 cm



Ardmore Vase with Snapdragon and Lily, 2020
oil on canvas
21.7 x 17.7 in
55 x 45 cm



Breakfast, 2020
oil on canvas
17.7 x 21.7 in
45 x 55 cm



Mihai, 2020
oil on canvas
21.7 x 17.7 in
55 x 45 cm



Dream Team, 2020
oil on canvas
26 x 31.5 in
66 x 80 cm



The G.O.A.T., 2020
oil on canvas
29.3 x 25.8 in
74.5 x 65.5 cm



Flesh Eating Flowers, 2020
oil on canvas
39.6 x 31.9 in
100.5 x 81 cm



Heartthrob, 2020
oil on canvas
35.5 x 27.5 in
90 x 70 cm



Simphiwe, 2020
oil on canvas
23.6 x 17.9 in
60 x 45.5 cm



The Reunion, 2020
oil on canvas
85 x 124.8 in
216 x 317 cm

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Ming Pop, 2020
oil on canvas
65 x 53.2 in
165 x 135 cm



Baller, 2020
oil on canvas
23.8 x 27.5 in
60.5 x 70 cm



The Three Graces, 2020
oil on canvas
72.8 x 84.7 in
185 x 215 cm



The Ex-Wife, 2020
oil on canvas
23.6 x 18 in
60 x 45.5 cm



Who's who?, 2020
oil on canvas
47.2 x 35.4 in
120 x 90 cm



American Woman, 2020
oil on canvas
21.7 x 17.8 in
55 x 45 cm



Old Bones, 2020
oil on canvas
31.5 x 26.8 in
80 x 68 cm



The T.V. Detective, 2020
oil on canvas
29.5 x 25.8 in
75 x 65.5 cm



Supine Woman, 2020
oil on canvas
13.8 x 19.7 in
35 x 50 cm



Influencer, 2020
oil on canvas
19.7 x 13.8 in
50 x 35 cm

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Heavy Head, 2020
oil on canvas
24.8 x 20.5 in
63 x 52 cm



Model Youth, 2019
oil on canvas
23.6 x 16 in
60 x 40.5 cm



The Honey Reviews, 2020
oil on canvas
82.7 x 95 in
210 x 241 cm



Dennis, 2020
oil on canvas
27.5 x 24 in
70 x 61 cm



Earvin, 2020
oil on canvas
21.7 x 17.7 in
55 x 45 cm



Fat Flowers, 2020
oil on canvas
31.5 x 25.6 in
80 x 65 cm



Beat Pop Bouquet, 2020
oil on canvas
72.8 x 84.7 in
185 x 215 cm



Study of Pink Couch (Matthew Reclining), 2020
oil on canvas
17.7 x 21.7 in
45 x 55 cm



The Wandering Nudes, 2020
oil on canvas
72.8 x 84.7 in
185 x 215 cm



A Holiday Arrangement, 2019
oil on canvas
23.6 x 18 in
60 x 45.5 cm

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Three Views of a Vase III, 2020
oil on canvas
21.7 x 17.7 in
55 x 45 cm



Don't Need No Man, 2020
oil on canvas
35.5 x 27.5 in
90 x 70 cm



Three Views of a Vase II, 2020
oil on canvas
21.7 x 17.7 in
55 x 45 cm



Vriende, 2020
oil on canvas
65 x 53.2 in
165 x 135 cm