

REFLECTION OF DREAMS

Solo exhibition of new works by Mike Dargas

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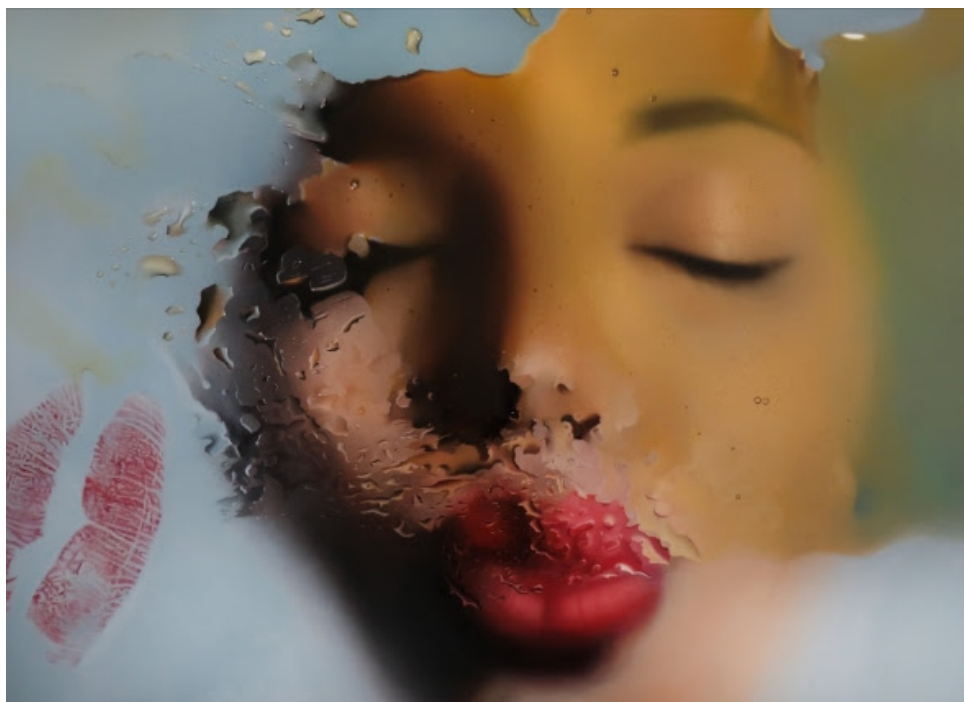
POOL PARTY

Group exhibition by artists from Field Projects

Presented in *C24 Underground*

July 11 - September 21, 2019

Opening Reception: July 11, 6-8PM



Mike Dargas, *Reflection of Dreams*, 2019, Oil on panel, 40" x 60"

On July 11th, 2019, C24 Gallery will present two different exhibitions, one by Mike Dargas, known for his extraordinary skill in photorealistic painting, and the other by artists from Field Projects, an open platform, multidisciplinary gallery dedicated to diversity, that hosts over 15 on and off-site exhibitions of all sizes each year. Mike's solo show, *Reflection of Dreams* will be installed in the ground floor gallery space, while the group show, *Pool Party* will take place in the gallery's atrium, known as *C24 Underground*. The exhibitions will run through September 21st.

Reflection of Dreams consists of seven new large-scale and two new smaller-scale oil paintings,

including images of women gazing into mirrors and Dargas' favored subject of flowing honey and chocolate over female faces. His provocative, hyper-realistic style together with his meticulous attention to detail create a sense of immediacy that is textured and visceral. But a deeper look at his work reveals a fascination with intimacy, a kind of personal and private experience, conjured by an inflaming of the senses. His paintings, though extremely sensual, go beyond the erotic, towards an exploration of self-awareness and love, and a reinvigoration of innocence, genuine emotion and sacredness.



Stephanie J. Woods, *Weave Idolatry II*, 2015, Photograph (hand woven synthetic hair weave, black body paint) with salvaged antique gold frame, 28.5" X 23.5", Edition 1 of 2

Pool Party is a large group show consisting of the work of a diverse group of over 40 artists from Field Projects, the newest installment in C24's ongoing series of partnerships with non-profit and artist-run arts organizations dedicated to promoting underrepresented artists. The selection will include paintings, sculpture, video and other multi-media work celebrating a range of personal and political identities and

perspectives, offering viewers a multitude of opportunities for cross-connection and self-reflection, as well as a vibrant counterpoint to the vivid style of the exhibition upstairs.

About Mike Dargas

Mike Dargas (b. 1983) was born in Cologne, Germany. Inspired by artists such as Dali, Caravaggio and H.R. Giger, Dargas studied various painting techniques since his early childhood when he developed a passion for realism, which over the years has developed into hyper-realism. He attracted attention at age eleven recreating old master paintings with pastel and chalk on the pavement in front of Cologne Cathedral. Shortly after, Dargas graduated in his youth from an adult art class after eighteen months. Through these classes coupled with independent study, Dargas learned and honed different techniques in painting and three-dimensional art. He started doing tattoos from the age of fourteen and made quite a reputation out of it, receiving numerous awards and prizes. Dargas has exhibited internationally throughout Germany, Belgium, London, Spain, Turkey, and Austria. His works are included in numerous private collections and have been featured in international art fairs such as Contemporary Istanbul, Art Miami, Stroke, and Art New York. Dargas is represented in the United States by C24 Gallery.



Julia Oldham, *Ghost Bird*, 2016, Video and animation, 7:22, Edition 1 of 5

About Field Projects

Founded in 2011 by artists Jacob Rhodes and Keri Oldham, Field Projects is an open platform for emerging artists in a progressively competitive and significant historic district-- Chelsea. For the past eight years the gallery has hosted over 15 on- and off-site exhibitions per year. Group shows, two-person and solo exhibitions featuring media from video to performance, painting, and sculpture attest to Field Project's fundamental commitment to diversity. Field Projects collectively believes in radical transparency and adopted a log of artists and curators self-identified gender and ethnicity charts in January of 2017-- these are updated with every exhibition and are publicly accessible on the gallery website. Through adopting these practices, they hope to combat the inherent and overt biases that plague the art community, hindering society, creativity and the free exchange of ideas. Field Projects is run by Jacob Rhodes, Rachel Frank, and Kristen Racaniello.



Kimia Ferdowsi Kline, *Feeding, The Sound of Roses*, 2019, oil and oil stick on panel, 12inx16in

About C24 Gallery

C24 Gallery was established in 2011 in Chelsea, New York, and is committed to showcasing



contemporary art with an emphasis on exhibiting both established as well as underrepresented artists. C24 Gallery artists regularly participate in museum exhibitions and biennials and are included in leading institutional collections worldwide.

In addition to an ambitious exhibition program, which includes collaborations with non-profit and artist-run arts institutions, C24 Gallery regularly hosts artist talks and lectures, and produces catalogues and artist books. Each year the gallery participates in major art fairs all around the world.

For more information please contact:
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