

KwangHo Shin

제목이 없는 존재

June 23 - July 30, 2016



KwangHo Shin
Untitled 16NY16
Oil on canvas
76 x 57 in | 194 x 144 cm
2016

UNIX Gallery is pleased to present "제목이 없는 존재," a solo exhibition by Korean artist KwangHo Shin at our 532 West 24th Street location in New York. The exhibition opens with a public reception on June 23 from 6 - 8pm and runs for six weeks.

This latest series of work features new oil paintings that challenge the notion of identity and interactivity between people. Painting in the new environment of New York City, Shin features new tones and color combinations that directly reflect the artist's experience with his new surroundings. The result of this is a seductive enigma, an amalgamation of specificity and obscurity, anxiety and humor; all with Shin's expressive strokes that articulate the eponymous notion of "제목이 없는 존재," the devoid identity, the 'untitled being'.

Evoking themes of Abstract Expressionism, Shin employs intense and vibrant colors to depict the individualistic expression of emotion and a sense of self. He applies charcoal and oils in thick brushstrokes to distort and exaggerate the subject's facial features. His technique confronts the viewer with an emotional impact, effecting our understanding of the human form. Channeling a more figurative mode with *Untitled 16NY09*, the artist melds layers of pinks and purples with white to create an explosion of ephemeral flesh. The use of softer pastels

leaves a more gentle effect offset by rich siennas and flesh tones.

Colorful and faceless paintings brilliantly capture the complexity of human emotions. The subjects range from individual models, noted international celebrities, and self-portraits. *Untitled 16NY16* expresses Shin's natural inclination to represent his subjects' personalities and innate nature; even his own. "I don't see anything," the artist ruminates on his source material, "but it is also a self-portrait. When I am painting I don't exactly plan what colors I will use to paint." Here, Shin is able to clear his mind and evoke his full creative psyche. "During the painting process I change my ideas and feelings many times. I just focus on that feeling; that moment...I put the totality of my energy into that feeling so that when a work is complete I feel peaceful." Whether it is the external pose of the subject or the unique color combinations, abstraction or layered texture, the portraiture of KwangHo Shin is able to document the psychological changes and clashes that arise in us all.

KwangHo Shin (b. 1983, Seoul, South Korea). The exhibition marks his third solo show of his work with UNIX Gallery. Shin graduated from Keimyung University, Daegu Korea in 2009 with a BFA and has since been featured in numerous group and solo exhibitions including Goethe Institute Korea Gallery, Berlin (2011) and Bien Gallery, Seoul (2013). Shin has been featured as "One To Watch," a distinction awarded by the Saatchi Gallery to promising emerging artists. He was awarded the prestigious Daegu Art Center's artist in residence in 2011.

"제목이 없는 존재" runs from June 23 through July 30, 2016 and the gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

For all press inquiries and to RSVP to the preview, contact Robert Berry at 212-209-1572 or robert@unixgallery.com.