JESS VALICE'S DEBUT SOLO SHOW IN LONDON TO OPEN AT CARL KOSTYÁL

By Mark Westall • *15 March 2022*
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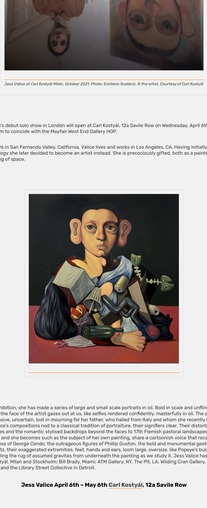


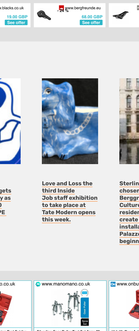
Jess Valice at Carl Kostyál Milan, October 2021. Photo: Emiliano Scattoni. © the artist. Courtesy of Carl Kostyál

Jess Valice's debut solo show in London will open at Carl Kostyál, 12a Savile Row on Wednesday, April 6th, private view 4-8 pm to coincide with the Mayfair West End Gallery HOP.

Born in 1996 in San Fernando Valley, California, Valice lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. Having initially studied Biopsychology she later decided to become an artist instead. She is precociously gifted, both as a painter and in her handling of space.

For this exhibition, she has made a series of large and small scale portraits in oil. Bold in scale and unflinching in their gaze, the face of the artist gazes out at us, like selfies rendered confidently, masterfully in oil. The artist as meme. Pensive, uncertain, lost in mourning for her father, who hailed from Italy and whom she recently lost, all too young. Valice's compositions nod to a classical tradition of portraiture, their signifiers clear. Their distorted perspectives and the romantic stylised backdrops beyond the faces to 17th Flemish pastoral landscapes. But her figures are also of their time, reminiscent of the fragmented, Cubist inspired portraits of Picasso, and the otherworldliness of George Condo, the outrageous figures of Philip Guston, the bold and monumental gestures of Dana Schutz, their exaggerated extremities, feet, hands and ears, loom large, oversize, like Popeye's bulging biceps, pulling the rug of assumed gravitas from underneath the painting as we study it. Jess Valice has exhibited at Carl Kostyál, Milan and Stockholm; Bill Brady, Miami; ATM Gallery, NY; The Pit, LA; Wilding Cran Gallery, LA; The Lodge, LA; and the Library Street Collective in Detroit.

Jess Valice April 6th – May 6th Carl Kostyál, 12a Savile Row



Jess Valice, Sofa Space, 2022. Oil on canvas. 94 x 72 in. (240 x 182 cm)

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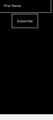

Mark Westall

Mark Westall is the Founder and Editor of FAD magazine Founder and co-publisher of Art of Conversation and founder of the platform @worldoffad

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Kyosai: The Israel Goldman Collection at the Royal Academy of Arts

I must admit that before I visited the Kawanabe Kyosai exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts, I wasn't familiar with his work, and expected to see something in the vein of the revered Japanese artist Hokusai. Kyosai is sometimes called the heroic successor of Hokusai, however, the exhibition felt more like looking at the work of an illustrator and satirist than a fine artist.

Damián Ortega Masks

'Just' opened at Gladstone Gallery is an exhibition of new works by Damián Ortega. Known for his uncanny ability to transcend ordinary objects into entities with complex narratives, the artist has created a new series of sculptural masks that explore the significant social, economic, and personal narratives embedded in the ephemera of the everyday.

Seeing Through Glass

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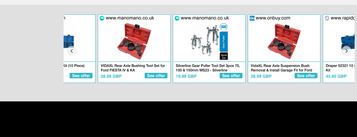

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