



PRESS RELEASE

In Summer's Teeth

Bella Carlos, Alice Gong Xiaowen, Y. Malik Jalal, Lyric Shen, Ang Ziqi Zhang

November 17 - December 22, 2023

Opening reception: Friday, November 17, 6-8pm

Silke Lindner is pleased to announce a group exhibition with works by Bella Carlos, Alice Gong Xiaowen, Y. Malik Jalal, Lyric Shen and Ang Ziqi Zhang. The exhibition takes its title from a line of Ocean Vuong's poetry collection *Time is a Mother* and explores concepts of time, memory, family traditions and relationships through use of image, technique and materiality. Using diverse approaches and methods, the sculptures and paintings in the exhibition archive universal and personal markers of time within the context of their cultural and familial heritage.

Ang Ziqi Zhang's abstract paintings of vibrant loops and curves, hard lines and soft hues, find their points of departure in underlying shapes of textual elements, symbols, signs and diagrams. The base structure for the two paintings in the exhibition is built on Roman and Chinese sundials, feng shui diagrams and mathematical bifurcation, on which the slowly-built translucent layers expand upon. Employing concepts of Eastern spirituality, ancient divination and 'superstitious' or 'spiritual-light' ideas, Ziqi Zhang explores and re-learns cultural parameters and belief systems that permeate the paintings and her past.

Alice Gong Xiaowen's amorphous sculptures come to existence in a state of flux. Working primarily in cast iron, the works often begin as molds formed from hand-folded dough - a tribute and attachment to a sense of place, a memory of the teachings of her grandmother. In the lineages of her medium and technique, she translates concepts of ephemerality and solidity, domesticity and industrialism, memory and matter, and bridges gaps between cultures by mapping paths of belonging.

Lyric Shen's sculptures hold digital images of personal memories on ceramic surfaces. Through water transfers, the ink adapts to the irregularities of the hand-built ceramics, distorting the information they carry like time that undulates the memory. In two new sculptures that carry pictures of moments with their family, Shen's work mirrors the core of memory itself, in which faces blur and a feeling lingers.

Set inside a welded iron frame in the shape of an ultrasound, sculptor Y. Malik Jalal collages images, materials and ephemera that connect Black history, Southern Black craftsmanship and systems of power. Found family photos, religious ephemera and pieces of advertisements that reference his own craft, juxtapose elements that form a complex picture of Black life in America.

Coming from a tradition of Southern craft, Bella Carlos was taught how to work with glass by their mother, a glass artist herself. Composed of stained glass, silver foil and written words, Carlos uses traditional craftsmanship to create masks that echo ancient artistry and futurism alike.

Bella Carlos (b. 1998) lives and works in New York. They earned a BA in illustration at the Rhode Island School of Design and a BA in socio-cultural anthropology at Brown University in 2021 and studied metalsmithing at the Royal College of Art in London. They have been included in group exhibitions at No Gallery (New York, NY), Dunkunsthalle (New York, NY), Gallery Kannski (Reykjavik, ISL), Fall River Museum of Contemporary Art (Fall River, MA) and Ortega y Gasset Projects (Brooklyn, NY).

Alice Gong Xiaowen (b. 1994 in Beijing) lives and works in New Haven, CT. She is currently enrolled in the MFA Sculpture program at Yale School of Art and received a BFA at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2016. She has recently been included at a two-person show at House of Seiko (San Francisco, CA) and a group exhibition at Duplex (New York, NY).

S.L.

Y. Malik Jalal (b. 1994 in Savannah, GA) lives in New Haven, CT. He is currently enrolled in the MFA Sculpture program at Yale School of Art and earned a BA from Oglethorpe University in 2016. He has had solo exhibitions at March Gallery (New York, NY) The Coleman Art Center (York, AL), Institute 193 (Lexington, KY), and The Alabama Contemporary Art Center (Mobile, AL). His work was included in group exhibitions at Yossi Milo (New York, NY), March Gallery (New York, NY), The Atlanta Contemporary, Hi-Lo Press (Atlanta, GA) and Delaplane (San Francisco, CA), among others.

Lyric Shen (b. 1993, Goleta, CA) lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. They received an MFA from Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills, MI. Recent solo and two-person exhibitions include 'Promise's Room' at Silke Lindner, 'The Petal' with Misa Cchan at Et al (San Francisco, CA) and 'Biscuit' at Canada (New York, NY). They have been included in several group exhibitions, including 'Reciprocity' at Marinaro (New York, NY), JUNK IS NO GOOD BABY, Silke Lindner (New York, NY) and 'Terra Firma' at Murmurs (Los Angeles, CA). Their work is in the permanent collections of the University of California and Santa Barbara Arts & Music Library.

Ang Ziqi Zhang (b. 1994, Brampton, Ontario) lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. Ziqi Zhang received her MFA in painting and printmaking from Yale School of Art in 2023. She will have a solo exhibition at Silke Lindner in February 2024 and has had solo and two-person exhibitions at Iowa (Brooklyn, NY), LVL3 (Chicago, IL), and Produce Model Gallery (Chicago, IL). Her work has been included in group exhibitions at Chapter NY (New York, NY), Derosia (New York, NY), Lo Brutto Stahl (Paris, France), Jan Kaps Gallery (Cologne, Germany), Apparatus Projects (Chicago, IL) and Good Weather Gallery (Chicago, IL) and Night Club Gallery (Minneapolis, MN), among others.

For more information please contact silke@silkelindner.com