

Ross + Kramer is pleased to announce Nicole Wittenberg's first solo exhibition at the gallery's East Hampton location, entitled Honeysuckle Rose. The gallery is located at 66 Newtown Lane.

Honeysuckle Rose features a series of paintings that Wittenberg has made over the past year. Her luminous landscapes began as pastel drawings that Wittenberg made en plein aire in coastal Maine and Newport, Rhode Island. Once she returned to her studio, she transposed her drawings onto larger, sometimes much larger, canvases.

Using a technique informed by Edgar Degas, Wittenberg paints her canvases against effervescent grounds of poppy red, bright green, and seething pink to brighten or "lift" subsequent layers of translucent oil paint. She is chasing "the sensation of nature," which she feels can be, "channeled through the experience of color and scale." While some works present a sublime vision of nature, untouched by humans, such as Goldenrod and The Sea Before the Rain, others feature small solitary figures traversing the landscape, as in The Journey and Cliffwalk.

Working from direct observation lends Wittenberg's work the sense of immediacy and authenticity characteristic of the Impressionists. Her shimmering representations of light hitting water or shadows dappling a wooded area in a thick summer heat radiate with a moving sense of familiarity. Despite being rendered with a relatively economical use of paint, her images involve complex spatial play and a unique lushness.

Nicole Wittenberg (b. 1979, San Francisco, CA) lives and works in New York City and Maine. Most recently, the artist has shown her work at Ross + Kramer, New York; Nina Johnson, Miami; The Journal, New York; and Skarstedt, New York in an exhibition curated by David Salle. Her work is included in the several institutional collections including: Aishti Foundation, Beirut, Lebanon; The Albertina, Vienna, Austria; Boston Museum of Fine Art, Boston, MA; Bowdoin College Museum of Art, MA; Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, ME; Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland, ME; High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA; Portland Museum of Art, Portland, ME; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York.