

Ross+Kramer

Ross + Kramer is pleased to announce the opening of *Up Close and Personal*, a group exhibition of paintings by Marcela Florido, Reihaneh Hosseini, Bianca Nemelc, and Scout Zabinski. The exhibition will run from June 26-August 14, 2021 at the gallery's New York City location at 515 W 27th Street, between 10th and 11th Avenues.

The four painters convened in *Up Close and Personal* use portraiture and self-portraiture to explore themes of identification through their relationships with others and themselves. Notably, all the artists are female and have matured since the advent of mobile phones, and more specifically Instagram, which has largely informed modes of presentation and self presentation in the last near-decade.

Hosseini, who hails from Tehran and now lives in Vienna, paints the screen of an iPhone in her painting, *A selfi from a persian party*, 2021. The phone becomes a way of mediating the group in front of the phone, arguably the subjects of the portrait, the taker of the photograph, and the viewer of the painting, creating layers of looking and an ambiguous distance between viewer and viewed. Meanwhile, Zabinski paints portraits of herself in both recognizable (her kitchen in *My Sunday Best*, 2019) and surreal scenes (a graveyard where she buries herself in *Face Ground, Ass Up*, 2021), interrogating her relationship with her physical and psychological self-image. Florido and Nemelc paint women that represent an archetypal female figure and can function almost like stand-ins for themselves. Florido's women stare outward from imagined, out-of-focus landscapes with neutral expressions, recalling Renaissance portraiture in composition. Nemelc's female figures, by contrast, never show their faces, but instead exist as swaths of graduated color, enmeshed in the landscapes that they emerge from. The figures in her paintings exist in compositional harmony with the natural environment.

Marcela Florido (b. 1988, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil) lives and works in New York. Florido received her MFA from the Yale School of Art, having previously studied at the Slade School of Art and Central Saint Martins in London. She has been the subject of solo exhibitions at Ross + Kramer, East Hampton (2020); Y2K, New York, NY (2019); Anita Schwartz, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (2018); among others. Her work has been included in exhibitions internationally at the Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, UAE; ICA Las Vegas; Carl Freedman Gallery, London; Galeria Anita Schwartz, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and Stems Gallery, Brussels.

Reihaneh Hosseini (b. 1988, Tehran, Iran) lives and works in Vienna, Austria. After studying Philosophy at the University of Tehran, she studied graphic arts and printmaking techniques at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna. This is her first time showing in the United States.

Bianca Nemelc (b. 1991, New York, NY) lives in Manhattan and works in the Bronx. A self-taught painter, Nemelc has shown her work internationally in group exhibitions at Anna Zorina Gallery, New York, NY; Ramp Gallery, London; Unit, London; Shin Gallery, New York, NY; Latchkey Gallery, New York, NY; Monique Meloche, Chicago. Nemelc was the subject of a solo exhibition at Ross + Kramer in East Hampton in 2019 and more recently a solo exhibition at Cheryl Hazan in New York, NY.

Scout Zabinski (b. 1997, United States) lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. Zabinski completed her undergraduate studies at New York University in the individualized studies program, Gallatin with a concentration on Painting, Psychology, Art History, and Post-Colonial Feminism. Since then, she has steadily been featured in group exhibitions in New York and abroad, notably at *Over The Influence*, Hong Kong and Andrew Edlin, New York.