

Sotheby's INSTITUTE OF ART

RELEVANT

PAINTINGS BY JENNIFER DE KLAVER

Curated by Anna Johnston

Opening Reception: Tuesday, April 10th, 2018, 6-8 PM

Sotheby's Institute of Art, New York

Sotheby's Institute of Art is pleased to present *Relevant – Paintings by Jennifer de Klaver*, a solo exhibition curated by Anna Johnston, a Master's candidate enrolled in the Contemporary Art Program. The exhibition, which marks the third installment in a series of projects curated by MA students, will be on view at the New York campus from April 10th through the 15th.

Although not a painter by training, de Klaver has lived and worked in inspiring settings that have influenced her artistic pursuits all her life. The artist spent her youth in Belgium, frequently traveling across Europe and viewing world-class masterworks along the way. After college, she earned a degree from Parsons School of Design in New York and since has held a series of high-level positions at prestigious design-based companies such as West Elm and Ralph Lauren.

Relevant showcases nine recent acrylic on canvas works. The motifs range from deeply textured colors and patterns, to text carved into a thickly painted base. For de Klaver, the canvas has always acted as a journal, whether through these text-based works or simply through the robust strokes of color, a way to express freely and wholly the aspects of her own life and the world around her that she deems most important. Some may acknowledge her work as a nod to Abstract Expressionism, but it seems the artist has created a genre all her own.

de Klaver maintains a sprawling studio on the east end of Long Island. Her most recent pieces no doubt draw influence from her surroundings, especially the sea. Her approach is free from constraints and far from academic. Even where her written works are concerned, Jen speaks freely and openly. As a seasoned curator and close friend of the artist has said of de Klaver, "She is a strong female force, and her work is a hurricane of emotion wrapped in a fine ribbon." Our hope is that *Relevant* sufficiently encompasses that persona, and brings to a small corner of the art world the expressive work of a talented, relevant artist.

Exhibitions are free and open to the public upon preliminary registration from 10 AM to 6 PM. RSVP to exhibitionRSVP@sia.edu

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