

Curatorial Statement: Uniting the Prairies

Uniting the Prairies is a group exhibition which shares the collective concept of showcasing elements of identity, the self and the evolution of this narrative within its ephemeral nature.

As a manifestation of the 525 pop up group, the exhibition itself, as a Self, is given life through the transience of the space it embodies and exists within. The viewer is invited to experience the collection as a temporal happening- a fluid exchange of liminal potential where inspiration lies in the betwixt and between -its very existence defined, celebrated and immortalized by the very impermanence of its shifting identity.

Equally present in figuration, self-portraiture, abstraction and stylized surrealism, every piece in Uniting the Prairies holds space for the viewer to ask the questions: who do we become when we are the catalysts in bringing to life the moving identity of these visual narratives? What identities do we forge as the viewer in shifting these realities of potential? What can we do to bring these stories to life through the perceptions of our minds and imagination? And how does this bring us together as a whole to create a definitive identity in the lifespan of what is fleeting, but firm, tangible but experiential?

Every piece dwelling within this landscape of impermanence gifts the viewer a glimpse of their liminal presence. Each work informs the identity of the other in its essence. New narratives are perpetually created and consumed within the moving dialects of colour, space, subject and material. As the viewer walks and interacts, identities are apt to shift, evolve and survive through the act of experiencing each painting's energy as a singular piece, or as a part of a larger collective. No story appears the same way twice. As soon as one iteration is seen and understood, it is already in the process of flowing into something entirely new.

Aligning a shared vision through a multitude of different perspectives, Uniting the Prairies is an exhibition which reminds us that each moment of experience holds the potential for creating newness and beauty. It has been given life through a selection of emerging and established artists from diverse practices and experiences. Their unique works come together to explore the universal concepts of Self, identity and the constant transient traces of its visual evolution and exchange.

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