

RAFA MACARRÓN *THE GIRLS & THE GIRLS' DREAMS* January 15 - February 11, 2022

NINO MIER GALLERY 7327 SANTA MONICA BLVD

LOS ANGELES, CA 90046

GALLERY TWO & FOUR



RAFA MACARRÓN THE GIRLS and THE GIRLS' DREAMS January 15 – February 11, 2022

Nino Mier Gallery is pleased to present *The Girls* and *The Girls' Dreams*, a two-part exhibition by Rafa Macarrón, one of the most notable emerging artists in contemporary Spanish painting. The exhibition is the gallery's first solo show with Macarrón and will be on view in Los Angeles from January 15 – February 11, 2022.

The Girls and *The Girls' Dreams* are comprised of mixed media paintings on canvas, works on paper, and one twelve-foot bronze sculpture of an elongated, kneeling dog. The thirty-two works in the exhibition are a testament to Macarrón's interest in world-building. Almost all of the works in the show feature figural portraits of the titular 'girls', isolated from one another and represented in neo-cubist abstraction. Their likenesses appear against black backgrounds that recall either the dead of night or star-filled galaxies. These figures alternatively engage the eyeline of viewers or turn away from them, reflecting a broad range of everyday postures, emotions, and dreams.

With auspices in the works of artists such as Keith Haring, Pablo Picasso, Joan Miró, and Hieronymous Bosch, Macarrón's paintings cultivate an aesthetic experience structured by a direct relationship between the girls and the viewers. The girls may seem foreign to us, but through them we encounter a kind of purity and innocence that captures our gaze and becomes familiar.

Macarrón understands his smaller drawings and large-scale multimedia paintings on canvas as parallel practices. The drawings are opportunities to zero in on each girl's face and identity; when reconfigured on canvas, they begin to appear harmonious and fluid, and to have a greater sense of presence. By placing his figures against black backgrounds in chiaroscuro, the intricate geometries that comprise their bodies becomes illuminated. In this way, the girls become the protagonists of Macarrón's nonlinear narrative. They stand alone with only their thoughts and dreams. The exhibition presents these dreamers as floating bodies in abstraction, and their dreams as what captures and transports us into the sublime abyss that is the tender and frayed memory of early life.

Rafa Macarrón (b. 1982, Spain; lives and works in Madrid) has exhibited at CAC, Málaga, Spain; Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Alicante, Spain; Museo DA2, Salamanca, Spain; and his work is collected by institutions worldwide, including the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, New York; Fundación BMW, Spain; Caja Campo, Valladolid, Spain; and Colección Mercadona, Spain; among others.

THE GIRLS











































Installation View of Rafa Macarrón, *The Girls* (January 15 - February 11, 2022) Gallery Two, Nino Mier Gallery, LA



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Rafa Macarrón | Untitled (Niña 5), 2021 | Mixed media on canvas | 55 1/8 x 55 1/8 in, 140 x 140 cm | (RMA21.009)









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THE GIRLS' DREAMS



Installation View of Rafa Macarrón, *The Girls' Dreams* (January 15 – February 11, 2022) Gallery Four, Nino Mier Gallery, LA























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Installation View of Rafa Macarrón, *The Girls' Dreams* (January 15 - February 11, 2022) Gallery Four, Nino Mier Gallery, LA







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Installation View of Rafa Macarrón, *The Girls' Dreams* (January 15 – February 11, 2022) Gallery Four, Nino Mier Gallery, LA



Rafa Macarrón | Untitled, 2021 | Mixed media on paper | 19 7/8 x 25 3/4 in | 50.5 x 65.5 cm | (RMA21.037)








Installation View of Rafa Macarrón, *The Girls' Dreams* (January 15 – February 11, 2022) Gallery Four, Nino Mier Gallery, LA











Rafa Macarrón | Untitled (Niñas), 2021 | Mixed media on paper | 5 7/8 x 5 7/8 in, 15 x 15 cm | (RMA21.015)







RAFA MACARRÓN

Born 1981, Madrid, Spain Lives and works in Madrid, Spain

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *The Girls*, Nino Mier Gallery, Los Angeles, USA *The Girls' Dreams*, Nino Mier Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 2021 *El Bañista*, La Nave Salinas, Ibiza, Spain *Quince*, CAC, Centro de Arte Contemporáneo de Málaga, Spain
- 2019 Flourescent Routine, Allouche Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 2018 *Universo tropical*, Galería Juan Silió, Santander, Spain *Proyecto individual*, Gerhardt Braun Gallery, Palma de Mallorca, Spain
- 2017 *Cuando un hombre entra en una habitación lleva toda su vida con él*, Galería Marga Cervera, Madrid, Spain
- 2016 *The Lilies in the Field and the Birds of the Air*, Allouche Gallery, NY, USA *La vida comienza donde termina el miedo*, Gerhardt Braun, Palma de Mallorca, Spain
- 2015 En familia, Galería Juan Silió, Santander, Spain
- 2014 Spain Take off, Galería O. Ascanio, Miami, USA
- 2013 El reino de la fantasia no puede morir, Galería Distrito 4, Madrid, Spain
- 2011 *La Ciudad Acabada*, Galería Distrito 4, Madrid, Spain *Busa Silencio y lo Encontrarás*, Palacio de Garcigrande, Salamanca, Spain
- 2010 En las nubes, Galería Adora Calvo, Salamanca, Spain

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 Stand Still A Still Life Show, Allouche Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 2015 Luz del Mediterráneo, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Alicante, Spain
- 2014 Jóvenes pintores Fundación Gaceta, Museo DA2, Salamanca, Spain
- 2013 Casa de las Bóvedas, Universidad de Puebla, Mexico
- 2011 ARTENAVAS, Convento de Santo Domingo y San Pablo, Ávila, Spain
- 2010 La memoria del laberinto Homenaje a Miguel Hernández, Centro de Congresos Elche, Spain
- 2009 Paisajes contemporáneos, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Elche, Spain

COLLECTIONS

Cristina Masaveu Paterson, Spain Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, Peekskill, New York Fundación BMW, Spain Fundación Vivanco, LA Rioja, Spain Caja Campo, Valladolid, Spain Cooperativa Virgen de las Viñas, Tomelloso, Spain Colección Pilar Citoler, Spain Colección Mercadona, Spain