



NINO MIER GALLERY

LOS ANGELES | BRUSSELS | NEW YORK | MARFA

EXPO CHICAGO

BOOTH 230

APRIL 13-16, 2023

INFO@MIERGALLERY.COM

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For EXPO Chicago 2023, Nino Mier Gallery will present a series of works by Belgian painter Pieter Jennes. The solo booth features a carnivalesque suite of new, large-scale paintings, smaller works on paper, and sculptures, on view at Navy Pier from April 13 – 16, 2023.

The compositions are staged theatrically, without clear distinctions between foreground and background, instead cultivating a patchworked immediacy. We witness humans disguise themselves as horses, men and birds falling from the sky, an umbrella-toting artist being struck by a hose, and flying horses, among other absurdist gestures that fall on the spectrum between tomfoolery and mischief. Jennes' surfaces are heavily worked with rich oil paint, bringing to the suite a three dimensionality that fully manifests in a series of plush sculptures of dead—or drunk—birds.

Each painting in the presentation features a series of patchworked rectangles running parallel to the composition's bottom edge. The rectangles reference the Game of Goose, the earliest commercially produced board game, imagined first in 15th century Italy as a chase game akin to Parcheesi. Humans and animals stand, float, and tumble above the rectangular blocks, represented with Jennes' signature air of jouissance.

Jennes' compositions are youthful and imaginative, evincing the pleasures and light-hearted tensions we feel when gathered for board game, among more consequential experiences. The works on display feature a range of allusions to historical events, often representing tragedy and disaster with a sense of charm, as many children's games do (think, for instance, of Ring Around the Rosie, which responds to the Black Plague). *world & image* (2022) considers the infamous 1974 "Bulldozer Exhibition"—an unofficial exhibition in Soviet Moscow broken-up by government officers wielding water cannons and riding bulldozers. In a similar vein, *Nothing Happened Here* (2022) redresses The Horses of Bayeux, a sprawling late 11th century tapestry depicting the events of the 1066 Norman invasion of England. The horse motif reappears in, among other works, *Bybeck Nightingale* (2022), a portrait of the Queen of England's racehorse.

Pieter Jennes (b. 1990, Mortsel, Belgium; lives and works in Antwerp) studied painting at the Royal Academie of Fine Arts, Antwerp, as well as curatorial studies at the Royal Academie of Fine Arts & University of Gent. He has had solo exhibitions at institutions including Galleriy Sofie Van de Velde, Antwerp, BE; The White House Gallery, Lovenjoel, Belgium; BE PART, Belgium; and Public Gallery, London, UK.



Installation view of *An apple can't be tired*, 2022



An apple can't be tired, 2022 | Oil on canvas | 98 3/8 x 78 3/4 in, 250 x 200 cm | (PJE23.009)





Nooit meer slapen, 2023 | Oil on canvas | 78 3/4 x 66 7/8 in, 200 x 170 cm | (PJE23.021)





world & image, 2022 | Oil and mirrors on canvas | 74 3/4 x 66 7/8 in, 190 x 170 cm | (PJE23.007)





things behind the sun, 2022 | Oil and mirrors on canvas | 74 3/4 x 78 3/4 in, 190 x 200 cm | (PJE23.008)





What are you doing now?, 2022 | Oil and collage on canvas | 70 7/8 x 66 7/8 in, 180 x 170 cm | (PJE23.003)





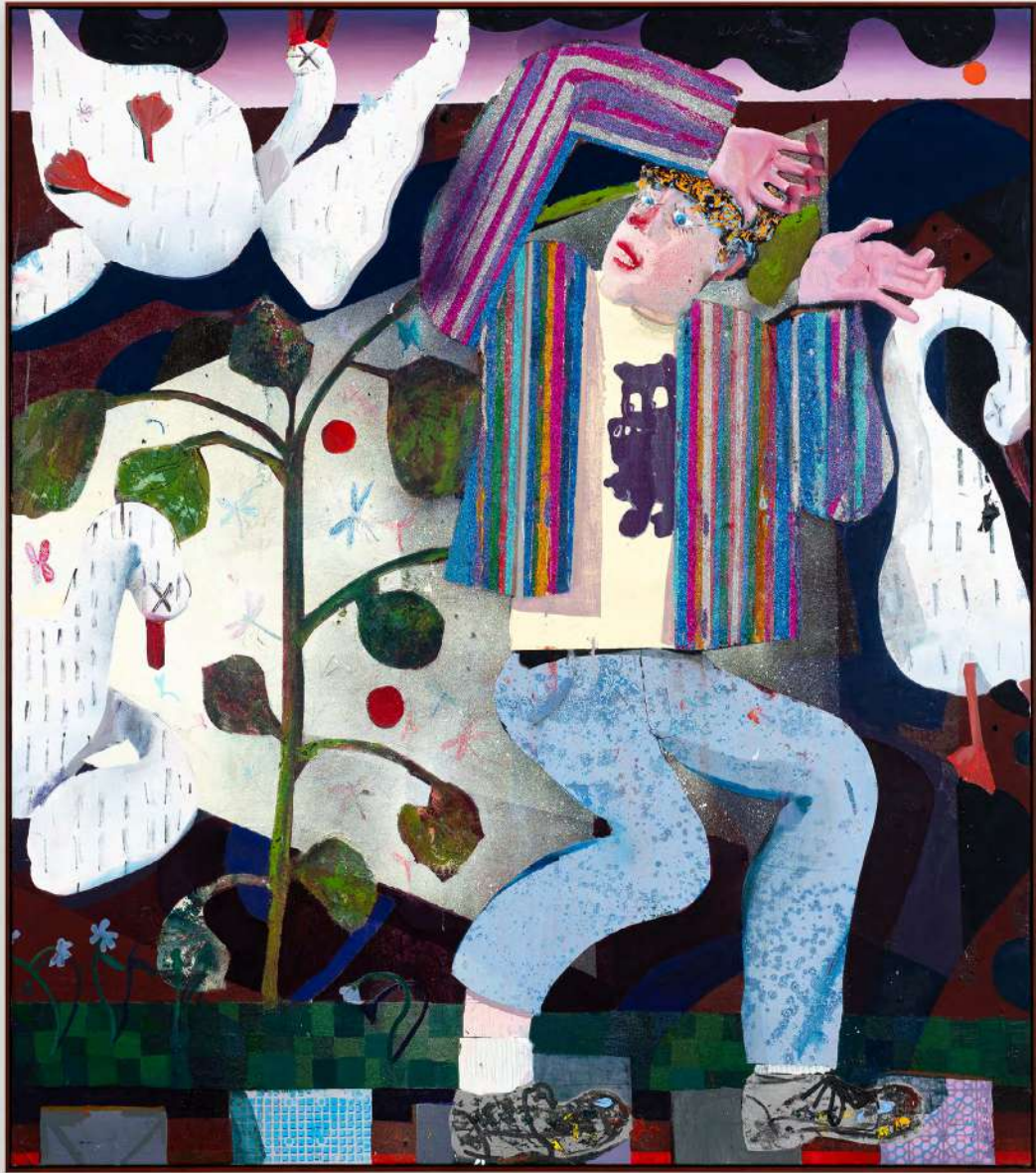
I'd be happy to, 2023 | Oil on canvas | 66 7/8 x 74 3/4 in, 170 x 190 cm | (PJE23.017)





Everybody's got one, 2023 | Oil on canvas | 66 7/8 x 59 in, 170 x 150 cm | (PJE23.024)





Why is he doing that ?, 2023 | Oil on canvas | 59 x 66 7/8 in, 150 x 170 cm | (PJE23.019)





Een ouder wordende man kruipt het dak niet op, 2023 | Oil on canvas | 55 1/8 x 59 in, 140 x 150 cm | (PJE23.030)





Installation view of *An apple can't be tired*, 2022



A cow that history won't soon forget, 2022 | Oil on canvas | 35 7/8 x 48 in, 91 x 122 cm | (PJE23.002)





Bybeck Nightingale, 2022 | Oil and collage on canvas | 35 3/8 x 45 1/4 in, 90 x 115 cm | (PJE23.035)





An apple can't be tired (L), 2023 | Mixed media on paper | 26 3/8 x 20 1/2 in, 67 x 52 cm | (PJE23.033)





An apple can't be tired (E), 2022 | Mixed media on paper | 25 1/4 x 15 3/4 in, 64 x 40 cm | (PJE23.011)





An apple can't be tired (H), 2022 | Mixed media on paper | 18 1/8 x 19 3/4 in, 46 x 50 cm | (PJE23.013)





An apple can't be tired (F), 2022 | Mixed media on paper | 16 7/8 x 17 3/4 in, 43 x 45 cm | (PJE23.016)





An apple can't be tired (A), 2022 | Mixed media on paper | 19 3/4 x 23 5/8 in, 50 x 60 cm | (PJE23.015)





An apple can't be tired (K), 2023 | Mixed media on paper | 12 5/8 x 16 1/8 in, 32 x 41 cm | (PJE23.032)





An apple can't be tired (J), 2023 | Mixed media on paper | 18 7/8 x 25 1/4 in, 48 x 64 cm
(PJE23.031)





Installation view of *An apple can't be tired*, 2022

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PIETER JENNES

Born 1990 in Mortsel, Belgium
Lives and works in Antwerp, Belgium

EDUCATION

2014 University of Ghent, School of Arts Ghent, KASK, Ghent, BE
2013 Master Arts and Design, The Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Antwerp, BE

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023 Gallery Sofie Van de Velde, Antwerp, BE (forthcoming)
An apple can't be tired, Be-Part, Waregem, BE

2022 *When Weeds Bloom*, Nino Mier Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, US

2021 *I can tell you stories*, Gallery Sofie Van de Velde, Antwerp, BE
Everybody's heard about the bird, PUBLIC Gallery, London, UK

2019 *Tomorrow is so far away*, Gallery Sofie Van de Velde, Antwerp, BE
Opwaartse spuwende fonteinen en dwarrelende regen, AIP, Hoboken, BE

2018 *I eat her lips and she eats mine*, The White House Gallery, Lovenjoel, BE

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023 Group exhibition, Nino Mier Gallery, New York, US (forthcoming)

2022 *Vacation II*, curated by Folkert de Jong, Vacancy Gallery, Shanghai, CN

2021 *Rewilding*, Nino Mier Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, US

2020 *Danser Brut*, Bozar, Brussels, BE
De Nacht, De Warande, Turnhout, BE

L'heure bleue, Gallery Sofie Van de Velde & PLUS-ONE Gallery, Antwerp, BE
Investec Cape Town Artfair, Gallery Sofie Van de Velde, Cape Town, SA
NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT, PUBLIC Gallery, London, UK

2019 *Coup de foudre*, Belfius collectie, Art Brussels, BE
Looking at the world through rose colored glasses, Gallery Sofie Van de Velde, Antwerp, BE

2018 *SOFT?*, Gallery Sofie Van de Velde, Antwerp, BE
Showhouse JayJay, Antwerp, BE
Red to brown, ABC klubhuis, Antwerp, BE

AWARDS

2018 Nomination for Gavere prize

2012 Prize "Schildersprij" for Painting of the Royal Academy of Fine Arts Nomination for
Horlait Daphsens prize

2010 Proost de Barys prize for Painting of the Royal Academy of Fine Arts

PUBLICATIONS

2021 *Pieter Jennes: Gezelligheid Op Een Druilerige Dag*, Sophie Van de Velde Gallery, Posture Editions

