

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
May 12, 2020

Karah Lain: Of Transience

A unified exhibition of 20 new paintings in 20 separate homes

Estimated show dates: May 30 – June 30, 2020

Exhibition statement:

During this pandemic, we of course cannot physically see the artworks of others. Many institutions and individual artists have compensated for this loss by posting more digital images of artworks online, but unfortunately, photos of artworks do not make up for the lost experience of being physically with art.

Karah Lain's newest body of work explores lightness, flexibility, and re-arrangement as concepts through painting. She has been creating this new work since the pandemic and stay at home orders began, which consists primarily of small, acrylic paintings on hardboard panel. But instead of posting more images of these works online, Lain has chosen to send these artworks off to twenty separate homes, as part of a month-long exhibition. While these works explore lightness conceptually, they also have a physical lightness that facilitates transience, as they can easily be shipped through the mail and hung provisionally on a wall in a home.

Participation in the exhibition has been solicited through the artist's Instagram page, and exhibitors have been accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis, with no financial charge for their participation.

The exhibitors are as follows:

Aubrey Bailey – Westerville, Ohio
Kelly Daniels – Warren, Ohio
Kristen DeArmas – Jacksonville, Florida
Jakelen Diaz – Portland, Oregon
Sarah Ann Fox – Selma, Indiana
Emma Gerigscott – Portland, Oregon
Eleanor Greer – San Diego, California
Lindsay Gryskewich – Richfield, Ohio
Karlin Labenske – San Diego, California
Erin Lain – Kankakee, Illinois

Rachel Lain – Kankakee, Illinois
Katana Lippart - St. Brunswick, Maryland
Kalaija Mallery – St. Louis, Missouri
Katie + Jon Manning – San Diego, California
Kelsey Overstreet – Carlsbad, California
Kelda van Patten – Portland, Oregon
Jessica Rehfield – Milwaukie, Oregon
Ryan Riss – Portland, Oregon
Brittany Wilder – Portland, Oregon
Rachael Zur – West Linn, Oregon

Artist's statement:

I paint with an improvisational focus on form within the knife's edge of the present tense. I want to create compositional problems for myself and then listen to my bad ideas for solutions, following these bad ideas to see how they might mix me up.

The paintings that result have shapes, lines, and colors that look almost like real things, but not quite, shimmering between reality and fantasy. The paintings are small, light, and made with inexpensive materials, so that they can be taken in slowly and quietly, inviting potential shifts in understanding, without inciting much emotional or intellectual whiplash.

I am very interested in this idea of lightness with these paintings, because lightness offers an opportunity to change my mind, the freedom to follow bad ideas for a while, and a chance to get out from under my own habitual way of doing things. The lightness that I pursue is grounded and secured in the knowledge that everything could be otherwise.

Artist's professional biography:

Karah Lain received her MFA from Oregon College of Art and Craft, and has shown her collage work throughout the country in such locations as the Zhou B Art Center in Chicago, Illinois, Third Room in Portland, Oregon, and Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. She has also served as an artist-in-residence at Portland Garment Factory, and as a University Fellow at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts. She is currently Assistant Professor of Visual Art in Painting and Drawing at Point Loma Nazarene University. She lives and works in San Diego, California.

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