

MONTI8

GABRIEL MADAN

Bad Sisters

Opening:

23rd September 2023

Through 18th November

MONTI8 is excited to announce ***Gabriel Madan - Bad Sisters***, the first European exhibition of the artist.

The show will fill the two venues of the gallery, the main space and the project room. In both, Madan will present a big installation, one connected to the other, ranging from painting to sculpture.

In the main space of via Monti, a new series of eight small paintings will be installed on several wallpaper images, representing the interior of the Teatro Regio di Parma, still considered one of the most renowned Opera Houses in the world. This juxtaposition underlines the contrast between the warm colors and the imposing Neoclassical architecture of the theater and the contemporary landscapes of the paintings.

The new body of work created by Gabriel Madan for this show reflects on the idea of suffering and loss, that the artist has experienced himself after the death of his older sister Rebecca in 2015 on a beach in Florida. Referring to this tragic event, these paintings, almost identical to each other, consistently return to the same subject: an empty Miami beach, where the sentence "I am alive why aren't you here" is repeated. Besides the point of view, the light is the only element that changes in these works. The artist offers different views of the same landscape, where the colors change dramatically as the hours go by, breaking the seriality of the subjects.

A similar idea of repetition and seriality is reproduced in the project space. In the apartment, the gallery hosts an installation titled ***One Milion Sunsets***, inspired by the installation by Lutz Bacher "Stress Balls", made in 2012. More than two hundred foam hearts occupy almost the entire surface of the floor. This work, enriched by the presence of a model/sculpture and a silver painting, focuses on the silly aspect of the artistic practice. As Olivia Mole wrote in her text for the exhibition

They are silly. It's silly to hang silly paintings on photo backdrops. It's silly to inhabit bereavement with factory-made foam hearts. (They're an irreverent nod to Lutz Bacher's 2012 installation Stress Balls, itself an irreverent nod to quantum physics.) It's silly to make clumsy fanart-ish copies of historical artworks. It's silly to give work that comes from bereavement the title of a TV show. But while death, to quote Jackie Wang, is "boring as hell", life should be 3 silly, shouldn't it?

The exhibition will open on 23rd September and will be on view through 18th November.

ABOUT

Gabriel Madan (b. 1993, Miami, FL) is a multimedia artist who lives and works in Los Angeles.

He received his MFA from ArtCenter College of Art and Design (2020) and BFA in Printmaking from the University of Miami (2015).

Recent solo exhibitions include *Severance*, François Ghebaly, Los Angeles and New York (2023); *ça va aller*, Red Baron Pizza, Hesperia (curated by Aram Moshayedi and Sharyar Nashat) (2022); *Dogs Who Are Poets and Movie Stars*, Gattopardo, Los Angeles (2021); and *Sana Sana*, Artcenter College of Design, Pasadena (2020).

Additionally, his work has been included in group presentations at Baik Art, Seoul, Korea (2022); Gattopardo, Los Angeles (2022); Kristina Kite Gallery, Los Angeles (2021) and Artcenter, Los Angeles (2020).

Screenings of his work have been presented via Magic Rectangles (2021); Renaissance Society (2020); and Los Angeles Nomadic Division (2020).

His work resides in the collection of the Hammer Museum.

INFO

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With text by Olivia Mole

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Main Gallery / Project space
Via Monti 8 / Viale dello Statuto 37

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