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LaiSun Keane

LaiSun Keane Gallery Presents *Fragmented Experiences*
John Baker x Jameel Radcliffe
June 3 - 26, 2022

Opening Reception Friday June 3, 5 - 8pm

Artist Talk Saturday June 4, 1 - 2 pm

LaiSun Keane Gallery's June exhibition brings together emerging artist Jameel Radcliffe with John Baker, whose collage paintings have been shown with acclaim for over 50 years in New York and Boston. Bringing these two artists into conversation reflects the gallery's commitment to not only champion young and underrepresented artists but to provoke questions on the emergence or divergence of various themes in contemporary art.

Jameel Radcliffe's portraits are both deeply personal and otherworldly, with color, tone and abstracted backgrounds serving to express the bond and connections between the artist and his subjects. Jameel, a mentor and painter at Boston's Artists for Humanity, works closely with young people from low income or underrepresented backgrounds, helping them realize their artistic strengths in the same program that introduced him to the arts as a teen.



Jameel Radcliffe

Sun Akari, 2022

Oil and paper on canvas

48 x 24 in

"The relationship between recognizable imagery and abstract marks culminate into a work that more easily depicts emotion and inspiration I feel for each portrait." - Jameel Radcliffe Artist's Statement

John Baker, whose artistic career began under the tutelage of Donald Judd, exhibits new collage paintings where abstraction meets figuration, humor meets pathos, and creator meets his creation. Juxtaposed with Radcliffe's youthful subjects, Baker's works depict an almost world-weariness, while still sparking his underlying thesis, "the expression of inner life through imagery so novel that the impact is both intense and inescapable."



John Baker
On the Beach, 2022
Acrylic and collage on canvas
67.875 x 46 in

"Baker recontextualizes various painted components from found paintings into a collective collage painting thus creating work that is filled with intentionality and clarity. Through this meticulous process, Baker is able to visually depict the absurdity of life and explore the duality of the physical world and the subconscious mind." -Shelby Barthelemy

"We are thrilled to show both John Baker and Jameel Radcliffe at our gallery for the first time," said LaiSun Keane. "I thought it would interesting to pair these two – both are teachers and work with figures, but come from very different backgrounds, generations, and approaches."

Artist Bios:

John Baker is a prolific artist who began his career in wood sculpting under the tutelage of Donald Judd. Baker pivoted to painting in the 70s to expand his visual vocabulary and has been experimenting with painting and collage which culminated in his most recent exploration of surrealism. He received his BA in English from Clark University and both MA and PH.D in Art History from Brown University. He taught at Massachusetts College of Art and Design for over 30 years in the Art History department. He now maintains a full time art practice and studio in the greater Boston area.

Jameel Radcliffe is an emerging artist based in Boston. He graduated with a BFA from Montserrat College of Art, Beverly MA. Besides practicing art, Radcliffe is an educator at Artists for Humanity. He has exhibited at galleries in Boston and New York.

ABOUT LAISUN KEANE GALLERY

LaiSun Keane is a contemporary art gallery located at Sowa Art District in Boston with a focus on providing a platform for non-mainstream voices. The gallery was born in the Covid19 pandemic and has a strong focus on producing online content and new ways of art presentation and art sales. Our stable of artists consists of both local and international artists, and we mount eight to nine virtual and in-person exhibitions annually. We believe in growing our artists' careers and make it an important component of our programming to participate in strategic art fairs in New York and Miami.