

# CHASING MONSTERS

## RÉMI DEYMIER

13 March - 10 April 2024

**Extended to 12 May 2024**

*Sound Performance 18th of April 6-7pm*

Castello 2432, Fondamenta dei Penini, 30122, Venezia

Open Tuesday to Sunday, 10am-6pm

Exhibition curated and organised by Yasmine Helou

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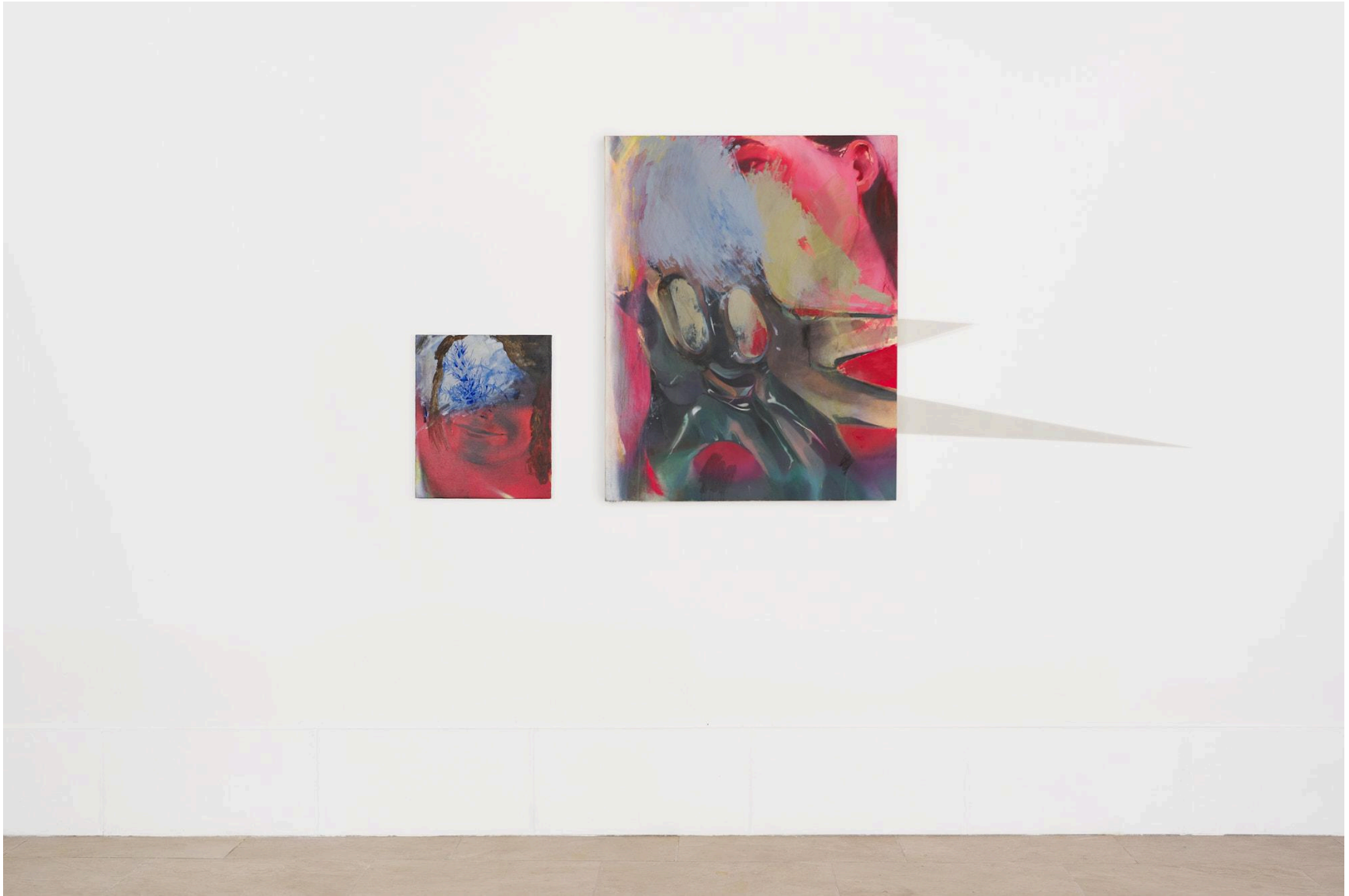




*Chasing Monsters* is the first solo show of French artist Rémi Deymier, in Venice. Following a strong practice based on painting and drawing, the series of works presented here is the ultimate result of Deymier's new artistic approach. Diving into the digital realm, the artist starts by identifying interesting sculptural elements that he then 3D scans, or models directly, studies and eventually deforms, stretches, and digitally distorts before combining them to oil paintings, his main medium, mixing in this way a contemporary tool to ancestral pictorial traditions. By depicting and including these hybrid elements to his multilayered works on canvas, Deymier creates new realities where History of Art, Pop Culture, generic and personal references blend in a chimeric and dystopic mélange of motifs and textures, dreams and materialities, memories and projections. Referring to the French expression "Courir après des chimères," the exhibition highlights the artist's will or obsession to create almost helplessly, through the canvas, unity within disunity, attempting in this way to form a compact universe made of a multitude of singular things, that might seem at first glance slightly incomprehensible, and yet perfectly and surprisingly coherent.

Working in layers, Rémi Deymier gradually adds strata of images, creating multidimensional works that invite the audience to delve into magnetic worlds where opposites attract, where analog and digital, figuration and abstraction, intimate and universal, clarity and blur, soft and hard, past present and future seem all to be one. In this sense, it is difficult, looking at the paintings' enmeshment with their fragmented environment, not to think of Donna Haraway when she says "By the late twentieth century, our time, a mythic time, we are all chimeras, theorized and fabricated hybrids of machine and organism; in short, we are cyborgs" Deymier's works clearly seem to question the meaning of one's identity, made of a myriad of layers and experiences in motion. But, they also appear to be the consequence of a thorough investigation through social imaginary, collective visual understanding, iconography and pictorial language in general. Past Haraway, these works weave their roots around atemporal aphorisms. As put by Plato "Reality is both multiple and one, and in its division it is always brought together." In this vein, the new realities created by Rémi Deymier are precisely and in truth an assemblage that brings together many worlds in one. With an astute eye and through new reinterpretations and parallelisms, he brings to light the absurdity of the notion of establishment and fixed meanings. The works presented in this framework are a tangible and peripatetic testimony of the artist's wanderings through cultural concepts and personal phenomena, layered figures that recall or not, familiar feelings and knowledge(s), stretched antique and classical sculptures, fragments of hidden portraits, actual and invented sceneries, reminiscent of pop culture phenomena such as "Kawai" and the mix between extreme precision and total fog, inspiring confusion, mystery but also curiosity, this exhibition is an ode to coiled identities

With its blissfully chaotic orchestra of digitally deformed images and paintings, *Chasing Monsters* is an effective multimedia installation that goes beyond the canvas and engulfs the frame, irremediably shattering any possible binarisms between inner and outside totality. Deymier invades the whole scene from the very beginning of the painting process by ignoring the arbitrary limits of frames and borders to create instead an extensive visual puzzle, a true metaphor of life that unfolds almost limitlessly through space and time. After all, "Single vision produces worse illusions than double vision or many-headed monsters" to quote again Donna Haraway.





*Thistle Woman,*  
39x 46cm, Oil on Canvas,  
2024









*Crystal Visions*  
100x 80cm, Oil on Canvas,  
2024







*Les Chiens de Garde*  
39x 46cm, Oil on Canvas,  
2024

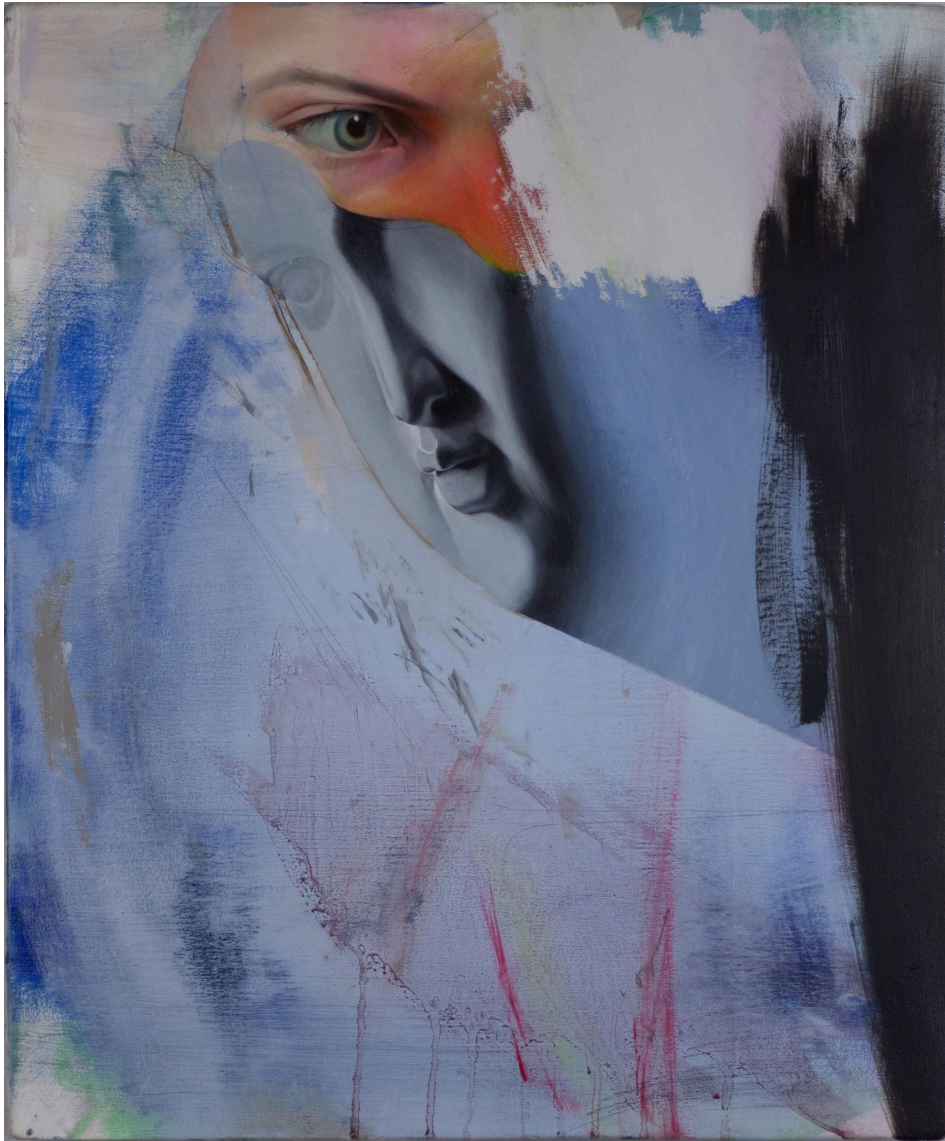




*Medieval Kawai,*  
100x 80cm, Oil on Canvas,  
2024







*Portrait Composite,*  
39x 46cm, Oil on Canvas,  
2024

Rémi Deymier was born in Narbonne on 17/09/1993, after a degree in Plastic Arts at the University of Montpellier, he joined the Academy of Fine Arts of Venice in 2015, where he obtained his Master's degree in Painting in 2019. Then he completed a two year long artist residency at the Bevilacqua La Masa studios. His work has been exhibited several times across Italy.

He lives and works in Vienna.

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### **September 2023**

«In Laguna» Curated by Yasmine Helou and Nadja Romain, Il Palazzo Experimental, Zattere, Venice, Italy

### **October 2021**

«Zona Bianca» Gallerie Woodbridge, Collective Exposition curated by Giorgio Verzotti, Biella, Italy

### **September 2021**

«Life After Still Life» Curated by Roberto Majano and Yasmine Helou, Venice, Italy,

### **June 2021**

«Regarding Venice» Poggiali Gallery, Milan, Italy,

### **May 2021**

«Preferirei di no» End of Residency Exposition, Bevilacqua La Masa Galleria, San Marco square, Venice, Italy

### **September 2020**

«Extra Ordinario Appello» Vulcano Agency, Marghera, Venice, Italy

### **September 2018**

«102ma Collettiva Giovani Artisti» Bevilacqua La Masa Galleria, San Marco, Venice, Italy

### **June 2018**

«Laboratorio Aperto» Workshop curated by Carlo di Raco, Forte Marghera, Venice, Italy

### **June 2017**

«Laboratorio Aperto» Workshop curated by Carlo di Raco, Forte Marghera, Venice, Italy

