

**Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel**

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## **Artissima XYZ — Present Future**

### **Solo project by Gokula Stoffel**

Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel is pleased to participate in Artissima XYZ — Present Future with a solo project by Brazilian artist Gokula Stoffel. The presentation specially conceived for the fair comprises eight new works, delving into themes of mystery and the unknown, as proposed by the section's curators Fernanda Brenner and Ilaria Gianni.

Stoffel's practice deliberately inhabits the apparent contradiction between the physical presence of painting and the volatility of digital images. The irrefutable three-dimensionality of the works creates latent friction between objects and representation. In a *modus operandi* radically opposed to linearity, the artist is keen to overlap thoughts and moods as she combines materials of different origins. In her paintings, Stoffel incorporates traditional techniques, as well as various mundane insertions. As a result, she captures a continuous flow of images of different sorts: portraits, landscapes, cutouts, and abstract textures.

Working between allegory and abstraction, the artist gives form to mythological creatures of Brazilian folklore (Curupira, 2021), ancient Egyptian death masks (Faiyum, 2021), and even mystical swirling flames (Fogo, 2021). In short, an exploration of the infinite potential of the painting medium, from the classic genre of oil painting to weaving (Paesagem queimando, 2021) to sculptures in air-dry clay (Gesto, 2021).

Gokula Stoffel (Porto Alegre, 1988) lives and works in São Paulo. Noteworthy solo exhibitions include *Persona*, Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel (São Paulo, 2021); *Para-Sol*, Pivô (São Paulo, 2018); *Alvorada de Vênus, Auroras* (São Paulo, 2018); and *Madona Ansiosa*, Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel (São Paulo, 2017). The artist participated in several group shows, such as *Nightfall*, curated by Fernanda Brenner, Milovan Farronato and Erika Verzutti, Mendes Wood DM (Brussels, 2018); and *Abre Alas #12*, curated by Adriana Varejão, Paula Borghi and André Sheik, A Gentil Carioca (Rio de Janeiro, 2016).

### **Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel**

In August 2021, the gallery will celebrate 20 years of activity, with exhibition spaces in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. Founded as Galeria Fortes Vilaça in 2001, Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel acts within the contemporary art circuit maintaining a dynamic program that features around 15 exhibitions a year. Márcia Fortes, Alessandra D'Aloia and Alexandre Gabriel lead the representation of 40 artists, of whom 32 are Brazilian. For the past two decades, the gallery has committed to longstanding and devoted relationships with its artists, encouraging emerging voices and cultivating established careers, as well as fostering cooperative liaisons with museums and curators worldwide. Driven by the construction of innovative models, Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel has established collaborations with fellow galleries and institutions in independent projects and online initiatives.

### **Press**

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