

**Austyn Weiner**

*Here's Your Fucking Flower*

18 November – 23 December 2017

Ibid Gallery is pleased to present a solo exhibition by Los Angeles based artist Austyn Weiner. *Here's Your Fucking Flower* is a continuation of Weiner's investigation into narrative, form, and interpersonal transaction. In this new series of paintings and drawings made from oil stick and wax pastel, Weiner enters a new phase of her practice by addressing the representation of flowers and their weight as an emotional exchange.

Stamin, pistil, and pedal are more than stand-ins for eroticized body parts in Weiner's recent paintings. Reading beyond the sexualization often assigned to her prior work, the representation of flowers as a token of exchanged emotion is wide ranging from romance and affinity to remorse and mourning. There are anticipatory flowers, angry flowers, sad flowers, congratulatory flowers, grieving flowers, and grateful flowers, all attaching their meaning to a narrative awaiting its fate. They are unmonumental monuments filled with specific intention at their moment of exchange, only to dry out and die. For *Here's Your Fucking Flower*, Weiner is most concerned with resentful flowers. As a result, the canvases are claustrophobically filled with forms struggling to fit into the spaces around them. These glyphic flower forms engage in a struggle and dance to find their place.

Much as a photographer records the feelings of her time, the flowers on Weiner's canvases each record a feeling or emotion filtered through her hand. In taking on flowers and landscapes, a loaded art historical subject, Weiner filters all references through her own lived experience. Initially trained in photography, she carries a filmic approach to images, often relying of motifs and repetition to build a nuanced variation of meaning making. The paintings are read cinematically while emotional plotlines carry more weight than vehicles for storytelling. Buried in this narrative is Weiner's deeply felt sense of place. Drawing on her time spent in the south of France and Los Angeles, her images of flowers are directly influenced by the striking similarities between the two locales. Despite drastically differing histories, cultures, and ways of living, there is an affinity across the two Mediterranean climates for dry shrubs and vivid flowers after a rainy season. Regardless of location, her paintings reflect a longing for a mountainside full of wildflowers or a single daisy growing on the side of the highway.

Austyn Weiner was born 1989 in Miami, Florida. She studied photography and painting at the University of Michigan School of Art and Design and Parsons School of Photography. Recent projects include the solo exhibition *Wilhardt & Naud* at The Lodge, Los Angeles, and organizing *We The People*, a group exhibition benefiting the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) at Werkärtz, Los Angeles.

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**Ibid Gallery**

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Tuesday – Saturday, 11am – 6pm