

## **BETWEEN WORLDS**

## **Goto Yumeno - Solo Show**

10 April — 01 June, 2024

The Gallery is pleased to announce 'Between Worlds', the first solo exhibition in Italy by the Japanese artist Goto Yumeno.

The title of the exhibition refers to the ultimate purpose of the artist's practice, who states:

"I draw from mythology, folklore, tarot, etc., and reconstruct them with the contemporary culture. While depicting a fantastical world, I am not trying to invite viewers into 'the other side' of the world, but I am rather trying to make paintings that are trying to cross the boundary into the real world where we live."

The artist wants to bring the fantasy world out of the canvas and beyond the limit imposed by its own surface. In the attempt to blur the line that divides the real world from the painted world, the artist develops her own technique: using a mixture of chalk, she recreates on canvas a three-dimensional topography that breaks spatially and literally into our world. These rocky-looking reliefs are inspired by Japanese culture, recreating a feeling of humidity and a breathing reality - instead of a flat image.

Interestingly, the represented figures are also a very powerful hybrid between cultures and different worlds - again, *between worlds*. We can easily recognize a mythological iconography that draws inspiration from the ancient Greco-Roman goddesses and from the pagan sacred handmaids. Surprisingly, however, these young women have oriental somatic traits.

Here, again, the artist manages to merge two worlds and two civilizations, the East and the West, creating a result that is far from trivial.

Playing between innocence, sacredness and eroticism, the artist manages to condense in her paintings a primordial but refined power. With a mastery that only Japanese culture can teach us, carnal strength is dominated by the elegance of poses that lead us to ask: are they goddesses or are they women of pleasure, or are they maybe both and the same thing?

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