

ALICEBLACK

‘Marty Schnapf: Santa Ana Winds’

Private View: Wednesday 17 October, 2018 (6-8pm)

Exhibition Dates: Thursday 18 October - Thursday 15 November, 2018

Gallery Address: ALICE BLACK, 47 Berwick Street (1st Fl), London W1F 8SQ

Opening Hours: Tuesday to Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 11am-4pm & by appointment

ALICE BLACK is pleased to present *Marty Schnapf: Santa Ana Winds*, the artist's debut solo exhibition in the UK.

Marty Schnapf, born in 1977, lives and works in Los Angeles California, USA. Schnapf is celebrated for his multidisciplinary practice spanning painting, performance, video, installation and sculpture. Central to his creative and conceptual investigations is an exploration into the manifold complexities of human relationships both from a psychological and metaphysical perspective.



Marty Schnapf, 'What the Wind Carries' 2017
Oil and charcoal on canvas | 62 × 56 in; 157.5 × 142.2 cm

Santa Ana Winds brings together a new body of Schnapf's paintings, created between 2017 and 2018. The title of the exhibition refers to a psychogeographical phenomenon distinct to the artist's home state. In his 1955 essay, 'Introduction to a Critique of Urban Geography,' situationist Guy Dubord defined psychogeography as "the study of the precise laws and specific effects of the geographical environment, consciously organized or not, on the emotions and behaviour of individuals." The Santa Anas are hot dry winds that blow over coastal Southern California and are thought to suffuse the region with a surreal and mystical tension.



Marty Schnapf, 'Catamaran 2017'
Oil and charcoal on canvas | 48 × 60 in; 121.9 × 152.4 cm

Schnapf's paintings reveal themselves slowly. While distinctly human, the figures in his work lack clear contours and easy classification. They hover in a liminal state between reality and suspension responding contortedly to their shifting environment. Intertwined forms recalibrate before our eyes as expectation slides toward ambiguity and a sensual, interior human experience emerges.

Schnapf's paintings often begin in a flurry of gestural abstraction. He then draws directly on the canvas without studies, pictures or models. Unencumbered by any single art historical allegiance, he employs a wide range of rendering techniques. With each step he reacts to the one before. Ghosts of previous forms and figures hover just behind the surface.

Schnapf received his BFA from Wittenberg University in 1999 and was heavily influenced by his studies abroad in Cortona, Italy. He has exhibited extensively

throughout the U.S and internationally, with recent solo exhibitions at Wilding Cran Gallery, Los Angeles, CA 2018; MaRS Gallery, Los Angeles, CA 2016; The Property, Los Angeles, CA 2015; and Permanently Closed, Los Angeles, CA 2015. He has featured in numerous performance festivals and group exhibitions, including at: Soulangh Cultural Park, Tainan, Taiwan; Vooruit Arts Center, Ghent, Belgium; Kaaistudios, Brussels, Belgium; 3rd Ward, New York, USA; Ballhaus Ost, Berlin, Germany; Caranza 25 Mexico City, Mexico; and The Portland Institute of Contemporary Art, Portland, Oregon, USA. He is the recipient of numerous grants including, most recently, a 2017 Rema Hort Mann Community Engagement Grant.

Notes to Editors:

For sales and press inquiries please contact: Alice Black
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Marty Schnapf, 'Mated Moons' 2017
Oil and charcoal on canvas | 62 × 56 in; 157.5 × 142.2 cm



Marty Schnapf, 'The Visitation' 2017
oil on canvas | 40 x 30 in; 101.6 x 76.20 cm



Marty Schnapf 'California Wildfires' 2017, Oil on canvas | 30 x 40 in; 76.2 x 101.6 cm



Marty Schnapf, 'Above and Beside' 2017
Oil and charcoal on canvas | 62 × 78 in 157.5 × 198.1cm



Marty Schnapf, 'Buoy' 2018
Oil on linen | 38 x 34 in; 96.52 x 86.36 cm