



HEIM + LUBRANI



Opening reception
Friday May 13th 8th 4-9pm, 2022

First solo exhibition of two painters.

These two young artists are at the beginning of their careers, and use many mediums and concepts. Dollhaus has curated a show with their works together, because it just makes sense!

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BEE HEIM

Heim's landscape paintings are welcomed after almost three years of being isolated and stuck in brick cities. Landscape paintings are coming back! No longer are they something to be shoved in the back of a dusty, old musty wood-paneled corridor of unreachable beauty and freedom. Her paintings of forests and woodlands evoke a mix of deep symbolism and intuitive meaning especially now. The landscapes are strong and powerful, and remind us that this is a land ruled by nature, where we do not have control over the environment. Her forests represent being lost, exploration and potential danger as well as mystery and 'other-worldliness'. Her paintings feel secretive, like you have just stumbled upon and snuck away into something very private and can feel the artist's soul's hiding place. These landscapes conjure up a strong subconscious link with the forest and childhood and all that comes with that, like stories and fairy tales. Innocence is often lured into the forest where magical unknown beings and humans live, both good and bad. The enchanted forest: a place where reality is left behind and the rules of the universe bend. This is where her creatures come in. A recurring female character which we think is called 'Lucinda' (the artist will never confirm this) seems to be at the edge of the forest. One could say this is the artist herself as the darkened traveler, looking for enlightenment and freedom. By placing these female presences amongst the trees, she reminds us that we are not in control, that we are primal in nature and that we are always in danger of losing our way, of falling into the dark forces of the other worlds that surround us. The trees always tower above this form, silently demonstrating their majesty and grandeur while the female presence is left diminished below. Looking at one of her more impressionistic paintings of a tree, we see 'The Mulberry Tree' painted by Vincent Van Gogh in 1889 during a period of great highs and lows, a time of great self-awareness and chaos with great self-discovery.

Heim is a young modern impressionist and is experimenting and very prolific. She has been in two group shows at The Dollhaus II. This is her first public solo exhibition. She spends a lot of time in nature and escaping the city. She is also an outstanding organic pastry chef. BEE HEIM is her company and provides exceptional baked goods to a wide scope of people and businesses.

SIMONE LUBRANI

Lubrani's paintings are complex, highly original, imaginative and dense in the use of symbolic figures and iconography. The works titillate and amuse much like 'groteschi' of the Italian Renaissance. They feature extremely intricate depictions of man in his sinful, destructive journey of greed and consumption while abusing and pillaging a beautiful world. We see devastation and ruination in unexpected illogical scenarios, but with familiar characters. Lubrani is an Italian artist, so of course we see religious struggles and narratives which dominate the paintings. Juxtapose a smidge of surrealist Salvador Dali and Robert Crumb, throw in a sprinkle of Robert Williams specifically referencing ZAP comix from the 1960's, and then stir in some Freudian psychology. Pink Panther's brain floats above them as a football with fangs, and a huge serpent tongue stretches out and licks the brain. Lubrani uses imagery of demons, half-human animals like oversized rats with worm-like tails stomping through lush landscapes. Fantastic illustrations of human dreams and nightmares as hybrids rise out of conveyor belt grinders; inexplicable machines come out of the aftermath wreckage of the world to evoke fear and confusion, portraying the evil of man. The monsters and chimeras he invents and paints break through nature.

Lubrani is a young modern surrealist and is finding his way through painting. He has been in two group shows at The Dollhaus II. This is his first public solo art exhibition, and you can see that he is just getting started. He engages with his art daily as a meditative practice, and you can see how he jumps around mediums. He gets up at 4:00 am every day for a disciplined life involving his animals, art, and spiritual practices, while working as a professional tattoo artist.

Both artists reside in Staten Island. Bee Heim is an organic natural unicorn of a baketress of spectacular delights. Simone Lubrani is a tattoo artist with a demanding family of four Dachshunds.

