

LACATENA FINE ARTS

presents

PAULA QUERIDO

*Multidão*

opening

Friday, June 20. 2025

6 - 9 pm

on view

through September 9. 2025

by appointment

Via Toledo 292, 80132, Napoli



*Piscininha*, 2025  
oil on linen  
35 x 45 cm  
unique

Lacatena Fine Arts is pleased to announce the first solo exhibition in Naples by Paula Querido (\*1992, Rio de Janeiro) which gathers ten oil paintings on linen and canvas, all dated 2025, and linked to two recent stays of the artist in Brazil and Greece.

In the group of works on display, Querido moves towards an irreducibly tropical and nocturnal expressionist figuration, relying on a practice that renounces preparatory drawings, directly intervening with a specific color palette of choice. The formative context here is the new New York scene, which through the work of this young painter contributes to problematizing a strand of marginal, intimist Americana, which we could call "transcription based painting" if you like, reactivating lately a considerable critical interest - a discourse, that is also carried forward in a way by Alexis Graman, Querido's companion, who exhibited with us in 2024 a series of very refined paintings. With their research, the two compose the deeds of an evasive pictorial diary. A painting style that is determined to bring back a connective tissue between the self and the fragmented multitude of the human landscape they come across. In a marriage between art and life that is very little romanticized, both Querido and Graman have each structured their work for years, throughout an assiduous lending of themselves to the studio work.

The horizontal crowd addressed in this recent series by Querido, is a thematic key that offers access to a formal reading of her compositions, all characterized by a strong abstract propensity, which recalls a bit the rigorous arrangement of the image (and the viscosity) of Bob Thompson's painting. The heads of the bathers marked by Querido, as if they were polka dots, in the apocalyptic afternoon, yellow and red, of *Piscininha*, are like a stretch of plankton: at the moment in which the future is undermined for one of them, no one can consider themselves truly alive.

In order to "stay alive," we must implement a salvific method of thought that uses both analogy and transcendence, a poetic method that arises from extreme suffering, from the total impossibility of living the squalor and horror of these inhuman days. Querido's transatlantic painting has a fiery gestuality, approximating the figure, not because it flatters itself with the mastery of a distinct and appreciable pictorial style, but because it has experienced the transcribed spaces first-hand – the public architecture of Niemeyer in Rio, of which she studies the projectual drawings, and the beaches of Crete alike – solarized and oppressive territories, liturgies of a surface that has now become unspeakable.

©FL, June 2025

## BIO

Paula Querido \*1992, Rio de Janeiro  
lives and works in New York City, USA

2023  
MFA in Painting, New York Studio School, New York, NY, USA

2014  
BA in Studio Arts, Bard College, Annandale-On-Hudson, NY, USA

## Solo Exhibitions (selection)

2025  
O que sinto daqui, Galerie Lazarew, Paris, France

2024  
Gravity of the Day, Ronchini Gallery, London, UK

2023  
MFA Thesis, New York Studio School, New York, NY, USA

2014  
ex nihilo nihil fit, BA Thesis, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY, USA

## Group Exhibitions (selection)

2025

In Between Realms, Chen Gallery, NYC, USA  
Six Painters, Jones Projects, New York, NY, USA

2024

Luxembourg Art Week, Galerie Lazarew, Paris, France

2023

Untitled Miami, Ronchini Gallery, Miami, FL, USA  
A Flower Made Out of Clay, Auxier Kline, New York, NY, USA  
New Paintings, Sonya Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
Arm's Length, New York Studio School Dumbo Space, New York, NY, USA  
Carousel, Stephen Street Gallery, New York, NY, USA

2022

In Memory of Something Else, New York Studio School, New York, NY USA  
Small Group Show, New York Studio School, New York, NY, USA

2021

Gathering Times, 68 Jay Street, New York, NY, USA  
Tertiary, New York Studio School, New York, NY, USA

2019

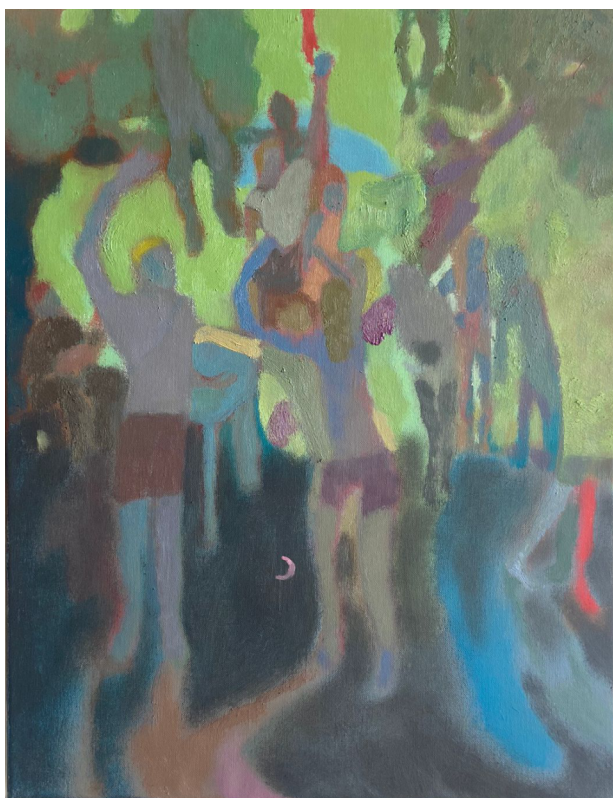
Paula Querido and Alexis Graman, Myrna Loy, Helena, MT, USA  
Natureza Morta, Lothringer 13\_Florida, Munich, Germany

2017

Lastro Estação de Trabalho - Works in Progress, Oficina Cultural Oswald de Andrade, São Paulo, Brazil

2013

Tensegrity, Henry Hudson Studios, Hudson, NY, USA



*A Dança*, 2025  
oil on linen  
45 x 35 cm  
unique