

GALLERY 1

Saturns Neckless

Laleh Khorramian

November 2 – December 10, 2016

*Do you remember the future? What will remain from that time to come?
What happens when that future vision collapses with the past?*

The Third Line is very pleased to present *Saturns Neckless*, Laleh Khorramian's third solo show at the gallery. Laleh returns with a new body of work featuring dyed and painted fabrics, vestments, and monotype portraits of alien and guardian beings – symbolic of an untiring fascination with that which is otherworldly, the unnameable, and of a timeless inner territory. The exhibition is an homage to these beings – in their multiple forms as druids, seers, knowers, oracles, robots and space forms – and their proximity to alienation, anonymity and totemic divinity.



Laleh Khorramian, *Alien*, 2016, mixed media on paper

Included in the exhibition are kimono-shaped hand painted fabric vestments; lengths of un-stretched canvas with stenciled prints that on second look reveal distended skeletal structures; shapes nodding towards encased bodies, human or otherworldly. From within these standing structures, a sound piece emanates from special speakers that have been incorporated in collaboration with creators Rob Kalin and Jeffrey W. Jackson. A low frequency penetrates, not heard, yet seen in a fluttering vibration of fabric. A gathering of divine beings converge here, an eddy of whales transmit to a progression of abstracted voices in unknown languages. These sounds – meant to be seen and not heard – propel a polyphonic container, an archeological tapping of existing relics lodged between concurrent memories of past and future calling.

As another collaborative participation, guest artist Mumtazz has produced collaged bodysuits that take inspiration from ancient armature, and are replete with pictures of the gods and goddesses of ancient cultures. Like costumes, which are bodies in themselves, all these pieces work together as artifacts representative of a particular realm. In addition to these are monotypes on paper, which are reminiscent of the *heads* series from 2006 where Laleh created portraits entirely from imagination, with the act of making taking on a performative role.

As other images feature microbial landscapes and fantasy beings from a parallel universe, delirium and theatricality continue to be a significant part of Laleh's work through which she explores the human condition, transformation and the sense of unknown mysticism in the face of indistinct divinity. Laleh harnesses the possibilities of chance, accidents and manipulation in her art making, with the final work's obfuscatory nature allowing room for individual interpretation

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About Laleh Khorramian

Born in Tehran, Iran (1974), Laleh Khorramian lives and works in New York. She studied at the Rhode Island School of Design and received her undergraduate degree at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and her MFA at Columbia University, New York.

Laleh's solo projects have shown in New York, Vienna, and Dubai, including at the Saint Louis Art Museum, Missouri, USA. She has also shown extensively in group exhibitions including those at MOMA/PS1, USA; MASS MOCA, USA; Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK; Ballroom Marfa, Texas, USA; Istanbul Museum of Art, Istanbul, Turkey; Queensland Museum of Art, Australia; Havremagasinet, Boden, Sweden; Kunstmuseum, Bonn, Germany; Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, NY, USA; Katara Cultural Village, Doha, Qatar; as well as at the Sundance Film Festival. Laleh participated in the 6th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art and the 44th edition of Art Basel with a solo presentation in the Statements sector. In 2013, she completed the Watermill Centre Residency in NY, USA. She also published her limited edition artist book *Include Amplified Toilet Water*.

Laleh's work is housed in several prominent collections including Saatchi Gallery, London, UK; Daman Collection, UAE and C-Collection, Principality of Liechtenstein.

GALLERY 2

Sherin Guirguis

November 2 – December 10, 2016

About The Third Line

The Third Line is a Dubai-based art gallery that represents contemporary Middle Eastern artists locally, regionally and internationally. The Third Line also hosts non-profit, alternative programs to increase interest and dialogue in the region.

The Third Line's book wing *Works on Paper* publishes books by associated artists from the region. Books published to date include *Presence* by photographer Lamyia Gargash (2008), *In Absentia* by Tarek Al-Ghoussein (2009), *Cosmic Geometry*, an extensive monograph on Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarman, edited by Hans Ulrich Obrist and Karen Marta (2011), and the self-titled treatise *Huda Lutfi* about the artist's Cairo based practice.

Represented artists include: Abbas Akhavan, Ala Ebtekar, Amir H. Fallah, Arwa Abouon, Babak Golkar, Farhad Moshiri, Fouad Elkoury, Golnaz Fathi, Hassan Hajjaj, Hayv Kahraman, Huda Lutfi, Joana Hadjithomas & Khalil Joreige, Laleh Khorramian, Lamyia Gargash, Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarman, Pouran Jinchi, Rana Begum, Sahand Hesamiyan, Sara Naim, Sherin Guirguis, Shirin Aliabadi, Slavs and Tatars, Sophia Al-Maria, Tarek Al-Ghoussein, Youssef Nabil and Zineb Sedira.

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