

PRESS RELEASE

YOUNGHEE CHOI MARTIN

Exhibition: October 30 – November 24, 2018

Reception: Thursday, November 1, 6 – 8 pm



Orestes as Wanderer, 2018, oil on linen, 48 x 72 inches

Flemish landscapes, to Cezanne's *Bathers*, with a serious nod to Eilshemius). Through the continual development of the paint, the surface, the composition, and the texture, the narrative is never lost. It breathes through the layers to slowly release a pictorial structure and a lyric dimension.

In "Orestes as Wanderer" (48" x 72"), the weather, the light at the time of day and year, and the landscape forms are painterly manifestations of the energy of the conflicting sanctions of the gods which propel Orestes onwards to his act of revenge. The paint itself drives the narrative which, as in the Aeschylus's works, finds its tragic force in the no-win situation for the protagonist and in the imposition of the wills of the Gods over humanity that both deforms and uplifts. It is that simultaneity that Martin's painting captures at the edge of abstraction and representation.

In "Orestes at the Tomb of Agamemnon" (48" x 36"), Martin starts from the pictorial convention of showing this scene as a poetic embodiment of the contemplation of grief as a state of being and she upends it, contemporizes it, through the independent movement of paint across the surface to express the discontinuity we all feel, the nostalgia we now have for being able to experience loss and grief in its fullest expression while living in our world of now; of relentless change, speed, and energy.

Since the late 1970's, Younghee Choi Martin has lived and worked in Chelsea, where she was one of the earliest artists to establish a painting studio. A graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, she has been awarded painting fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the NY CAPS program. Her works have been exhibited in New York and throughout the United States, Korea, Japan, France, and Italy. Over 80 of her paintings and drawings are in collections and museums in the United States, Korea, Japan, and India.

For more information:

Contact Bowery Gallery (646) 230-6655

Gallery Hours: Tue – Sat, 11 – 6

530 West 25th Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10001



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