

## ENTER | AMIR H. FALLAH, LAURE MARY-COUÉGNIAS, ALEKSANDAR TODOROVIC, TATIANA ZAGARI (POTTATO)

#### **DIO HORIA BOOTH #68**

Dio Horia is pleased to return to the 4th edition of Enter Art Fair, with a group presentation of new works by **Amir H. Fallah, Laure Mary-Couégnias, Aleksandar Todorovic and Tatiana Zagari (Pottato),** created specifically for the International Fair in the Nordics.

**Amir H. Fallah** delivers two figurative pieces, exploring themes of representation, identity and heritage, utilizing personal history as a starting point. In essence, both *Reclaimed Relic* and *Unseen Relic* are the artist's self-portraits, following a meticulous technique of visual layering. Each veiled figure holds a Persian artifact, in juxtaposition with stereotypically American retro mid-century fabric patterns. The artifact images, sourced by Christie's & Sotheby's catalogues, are accessible to the elite and not the general public, whose knowledge resources can be often quite limited. Conceptualizing pattern-based visual narratives of Islamic art, Fallah navigates between the old and new, the East and West, coming to terms, as an Americanized Iranian growing up in the US, with his dual identity, with a constant feeling of non-belonging, or ever knowing far enough about his very own culture.

**Laure Mary-Couégnias** constructs unified landscapes and still life paintings, where no human being is portrayed, only the shadow of memories and a familiar glow of sheer anticipation. Shocking and at the same time alluring, Mary-Couégnias' empty gardens of Eden in *9.22* and *11.46, In-between Moment, The Empty Chair #6* and *Nobody's Coffee* share an inconvenient truth, that develops gradually from early desperation to empathetic liberation. Like the artist's childhood bedroom flirting with the surreal, these uninhabited spaces build bridges between separate art movements, suggesting a void to be filled and a wound that needs healing, with cold blues, gentle brushstrokes and various smooth textures craving for the warmth and tenderness required to repair all damage and start anew, like the first human who ever walked on earth.

**Aleksandar Todorovic's** egg tempera on wooden board works operate as investigations on morality in separate settings that subvert the visual codes of Western pop culture, advertising and Byzantine orthodox church iconography aesthetics. As an artist who has grown up during the Balkan civil wars of the 1990s, Todorovic is deeply affected by social and political stimuli, exhibiting higher sensitivity to current events and their influence on personality development. Here, in post-pandemic hygiene trends inspired, *Holy Essential Items*, and Twitter CEO, Jack Dorsey's portrait, *St Mr Jerky*, Todorovic explores as complex issues as consumerism and white supremacy respectively, employing sarcasm, vibrant colors, an illusive happy-go-lucky attitude and a rich symbolic visual language, where each element holds a particular narrative function.

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**Tatiana Zagari (Pottato)'s** main practice involves handmade earthenware sculptures that break free from heaviness, adopting a lighthearted response to everyday fears, anxieties, and desires. Involving a laborious process that imparts stunning results, *2 feet under, I come in peace, Nudity on a shirt* took more or less 1 ½ month to complete, finishing up with molding and forming, thermal processing in 1030°C, glazing and eventually firing. Besides her ceramics, *Stillness,* a large banner in fine velvet, introduces a new (artistic) period for the artist. During postpartum, where Zagari was not able to work at her studio, she found herself in the house with a new human, sewing textiles, and her characters regained life through a new medium, as safe for a newborn, as pleasure to behold.

Enter Art Fair is an ambitious art fair located in Copenhagen – one of the world's most vibrant and forward-looking capitals. As the only international art fair in Scandinavia, ENTER invites visitors to experience some of the best contemporary art, not only just from the Nordics, but all around the world. ENTER's mission involves creating a relevant and competitive platform for the art industry, while providing a progressive space for new artists and experimental art forms. This year, Enter Art Fair welcomes approx. 75 galleries and their respective artists, all approved by an international selection committee, whose role is to ensure the highest quality of exhibitors, selecting among the applicants the strongest rooster of participating galleries.

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## **Short Bios**

— Amir H. Fallah (b. 1979, Tehran, Iran) lives and works in Los Angeles. Fallah received his BFA in Fine Art & Painting at the Maryland Institute College of Art and his MFA in Painting at the University of California, Los Angeles. Selected solo exhibitions include: 'Joy As An Act Of Resistance', Denny Dimin Gallery, Hong Kong, 'You Can't Teach What You Don't Know', Dio Horia Gallery, Athens, Greece, 'The Facade Project', San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, San Jose, 'Scatter My Ashes On Foreign Lands', MOCA Tucson, 'What It Means To Be An American', South Dakota Museum of Art, Brookings, 'Unknown Voyage', Schneider Museum of Art, Ashland, Oregon, 'The Caretaker', Nerman Museum Of Art, Overland Park. Selected group exhibitions include: 'Foresight Prevents Blindness', Fine Arts Center Gallery, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, 'Evocations · Celebrating the Museum's Collection', Nerman Museum Of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, 'Next To You', McEvoy Foundation For The Arts, San Francisco, 'A Boundless Drop To A Boundless Ocean', Orlando Museum Of Art, Orlando, 'Friends Non Show', Dio Horia Gallery, Athens, 'LA Painting', Museum Of Art and History, Lancaster, 'We Must Risk Delight: Twenty Artists from Los Angeles', 56th La Biennale di Venezia, Venice and the 9th Sharjah Biennial, Sharjah. Fallah has received a multitude of awards, including the Vermont Corridor Public Sculpture Commission by the LA Art the COLA Artist fellowship, the Artadia Award, the Northern Trust Purchase Prize at EXPO Chicago, and the Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters and Sculptors Grant. He has been featured in The New York Times, Artforum and The Guardian, among other cultural media. Fallah's work is part of preeminent art

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collections, such as the Cerritos College Public Art Collection, Norwalk; The Microsoft Collection; Neuman Museum, Kansas City; Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami; Plattsburg State Art Museum, Plattsburgh; Salsali Private Museum, Dubai; the SMART Museum of Art at the University of Chicago, Chicago.

- Laure Mary-Couégnias (b.1989, Bonneville Vit, France) lives and works in Paris. Mary-Couégnias received her BA and MA at the National School of Fine Arts of Lyon. Selected solo exhibitions include 'Time Out', Dio Horia Gallery, Athens, Greece, 'Escape Lane', Richard Heller Gallery, California, USA; 'Dream Bank', Domaine de Rouerie, Contemporary Art Center, Sud Hérault, France; 'Hi, How Are You ?', Septieme Gallery, Paris, France; 'Love is a beach', Contemporary Art Center le Vog, Fontaine, France; 'J'irai Fleurir sous tes reins', International Biennale of Contemporary Art, among others. Selected group exhibitions include: 'Romancing Relevance', WOAW Gallery, Hong Kong, China, Expo Chicago, Richard Heller Gallery, Chicago, USA, 'Satellite Of Love', Richard Heller Gallery, Santa Monica, USA, 'Mixed Pickles 10', Ruttkowski;68, Cologne, Germany, Untitled Art Fair, Richard Heller Gallery, Miami, USA 'Quixotic', Ramp Gallery, London, United Kingdom; 'Black & White vs. Color', Richard Heller Gallery, California, USA: 'Rendez-yous à la Havane'. Centro de Arte Contemporaneo Wifredo Lam, Havana, Cuba; 'La Littorale #7', Chambre(s) d'Amour, curated by Richard Leydier, International Biennale of Contemporary Art of Anglet, Côte Basque, Anglet, France; International Biennale of Contemporary Art of Lyon -Institute of Contemporary Art IAC - Villeurbanne, France; La synchronicité des éléments - CACN, Contemporary Art Center of Nîmes - Nîmes, France. Mary-Couégnias has been named a winner of the visual arts commission at International City of Arts, Paris, France. Her work is part of numerous public and private collections, such as Association Les Harpailleurs, Switzerland, The Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection, USA, the Château de Courterolles, France, the Domaine de Roueïre, Sud-Hérault, France, The Hall Art Fondation, USA. Mary-Couégnias' works have been presented in international art publications such as Juxtapoz, Artpress, Elle, Le Monde, among others.

— Aleksandar Todorovic (b.1982, Belgrade) lives and works in Belgrade. Todorovic graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Belgrade with a Master in Fine Arts. Selected solo exhibitions include: 'Brave New Normal World' at Dio Horia Gallery, Athens; 'Religion remastered' at Contemporary Art Gallery at Museum of Smederevo, Smederevo; 'Buy it all, eat it all' at Dio Horia Gallery, Mykonos; 'Aleksandar Todorovic, Pop-up Show' at Tim Faulkner Gallery, Louisville. Selected group exhibitions include: CAN Art Fair' at Dio Horia Gallery, Ibiza; 'refinerymonastery', 20th Biennial of Art in Pančevo, Pančevo; 'Days Of Future Present' at Plan X Gallery, Milan; 'Untitled', at Ningbo Art Museum, Ningbo; 'Black & White vs. Color' at Richard Heller Gallery, LA; 'FUTURE FAIR', at Dio Horia Gallery, Online Edition, Artsy; 'Art is where the heart is vol.6' at Droste gallery, Paris; 'Untitled Art Fair' at Dio Horia Gallery, Miami; MAP Kellergalerie, Vorarlberg; 'Iconostasis of capitalism' at Beers Contemporary, London. Todorovic has been selected for the publication and exhibition "100 Painters of Tomorrow" by Thames & Hudson and Beers Contemporary. He has been featured in various magazines, such as HEY!, Ink & Arrows, Neuroblasto, Ideafixa and Superpaper,

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as well as in art websites, like Artforum International, Juxtapoz, Widewalls, Yatzer and Risha. Todorovic's work is included in prominent art collections, such as the Dakis Joannou and Sumatovacka Art Education collections.

— Tatiana Zagari (Pottato), (b.1984, Athens, Greece) lives and works in Athens. She received a BA in Economics from the Athens University of Economics and Business and an MA in graphic design from AKTO College of Art and Design. Since 2019, she has been discovered by Dio Horia Gallery and has participated in group exhibitions and art fairs, including Future Fair, Dio Horia Gallery, Online edition, Artsy.

#### — Presentation info

Amir H. Fallah, Laure Mary-Couégnias, Aleksandar Todorovic, Tatiana Zagari (Pottato) Enter Art Fair Booth #68

#### Dio Horia Acropolis

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# — Upcoming Exhibitions & Fairs

**Amir H. Fallah: A Natural Selection** Solo Show Dio Horia Acropolis September 17 – October 17, 2022

# Selma Parlour: Warp & Weft

Solo Show Dio Horia Acropolis September 17 – October 17, 2022