

**TRISHA BAGA**  
***TIME MACHINE***

**Opening: Friday, October 7, 2022**  
**October 8 – December 20, 2022**  
**From Tuesday to Saturday, 11am - 6pm**  
**Gió Marconi, Via Tadino 20, Milan**

Gió Marconi is very pleased to announce *TIME MACHINE*, American artist's Trisha Baga's second solo exhibition at the gallery.

For this exhibition, Baga focuses primarily on their painting practice.

Best known for their immersive video installations, performances and ceramics, Baga has built a reputation for works that test the boundaries between the digital and the real worlds and that explore themes of pop culture, gender identity, politics and environmental issues while nevertheless enticing the viewer with their dreamy and utterly poetic atmosphere. Baga's is a meandering approach to storytelling. Their videos are multi-layered, collage-like and exempt of a linear structure. Their overall style is reminiscent of online browsing as overt narratives tend to be mostly rejected and are instead being substituted by loose sequences of images.

Parallel to their video production, Baga has always had a particular interest in ceramics - the malleability of the material clay and the ceramic production itself. This interest derives from their involvement with the ceramics club, a loose formation of New York artists who regularly meet at the Greenwich House Pottery in the West Village. Their core pottery subjects include everyday functional objects such as computers, tea kettles, cameras, coffee mugs or picture frames. But they are equally intrigued by the most varied and inventive animal portraits, the highlight of the latter being punk-like, flame-headed, triangularly shaped poodle portraits.

As with most of Baga's previous work groups, also their recent focus on painting originated from a collaboration. In 2020, Baga founded the painting club P-Lub with fellow artist Lu Zhang and the curator Herb Tam. Throughout the first year of the pandemic, the trio would create one collaborative painting per week and announce an episode of Virtual Studio Visit Loop, a series of conversations between Asian American workers in the cultural sector and artists who reflected on their working and living experiences during the pandemic. This collaboration prompted the artist to become more interested in the process of painting and to devote themselves more thoroughly to this new medium.

On display at the gallery is a group of paintings in combination with several ceramic clocks. The paintings are part of a new series that Baga began to work on in 2022. Ever since the pandemic started and the computer screen turned into a window to the world, Baga became increasingly intrigued by the large variety of screen saver images which feature the most pristine landscapes - from lush, exotic seascapes and regal arctic icebergs to snow-covered, sunfilled mountain ranges. These images transport an ideal natural world onto the viewers' screens and into their homes. Baga's paintings consist of two layers. The first layer depicts a landscape or an everyday scene like the view from the artist's apartment window, a glimpse into their studio or an image of their dog. These rather mundane motifs are then superimposed with another layer of reflections - be that the reflection of a cell phone screen, various computer icons, a cursor, an illuminated apartment window or a houseplant. *BIG MIRROR BIG MIRROR*, the largest painting in the exhibition, shows the artist at work in a dimly lit studio. Totally immersed in the act of painting, they are bent over the easel, their lusciously colorful color palette almost falling out of the canvas and into the viewer's arms. This studio view is overlaid by a myriad reflections of small, colored dots and computer icons which lightly touch the surface and envelop the whole

scene in magical stardust.

Despite their at times trivial subject matter, Baga's paintings uphold that dreamy and utterly poetic atmosphere that had already been a trademark of her earlier works.

**Trisha Baga** *They/Them* (b. 1985, Venice, FL) is a New York City-based, Filipino-American artist.

Their work has been the subject of solo exhibitions at Pirelli HangarBicocca, Milan (2020); Fridericianum, Kassel (2020); TPW, Toronto (2018); CCC, Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, Harvard College, Cambridge (2017); Zabłudowicz Collection, London (2014); Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (2012); Kunstverein München, Munich (2012).

Baga has participated in group exhibitions at AROs Aarhus Art Museum, Aarhus (2022); Gesellschaft für Moderne Kunst am Museum Ludwig, Cologne (2021); Asian Film Archive, Singapore (2021); CAC Cincinnati (2021); Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin (2020); Folkwang Museum, Essen (2016); Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco (2019); Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna (2019); LACMA, Los Angeles (2018); Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (2016); Centre d'Art Contemporain, Geneva (2016); Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris (2015); European Biennial of Contemporary Art, Zurich (2016); Julia Stoschek Collection at ZKM, Karlsruhe (2014).

Their work is in the collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Hessel Museum of Art, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York; Moderna Museet, Stockholm; Astrup Fearnley Museum, Oslo; Museum Ludwig, Cologne; Museum MMK für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt; Julia Stoschek Collection, Düsseldorf; Museo di Arte Moderna e Contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto; Aishti Foundation, Beirut, among others.

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