

GAGOSIAN

Gagosian to Exhibit New Paintings by Anna Weyant in Artist's London Debut

Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolves? Opens at the Davies Street Gallery on October 8, 2024



Anna Weyant, *Girl in Window*, 2024, oil on canvas, 48 × 36 inches (121.9 × 91.4 cm) © Anna Weyant. Photo: Maris Hutchinson

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LONDON, September 9, 2024—Gagosian is pleased to announce *Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolves?*, Anna Weyant's first exhibition in London, opening at the gallery at Davies Street on October 8, 2024. In her new paintings, Weyant infuses elements of autobiography with the symbolic wit, portentous mood, and refined technique that distinguished *Baby, It Ain't Over Till It's Over*, her 2022 Gagosian debut in New York, and *The Guitar Man*, her 2023 debut in Paris.

Weyant's precisely rendered figure paintings and portraits undercut their subjects' attempts at composure with gestures of tragicomic awkwardness, while her crystalline still-life compositions lend everyday objects a similarly unsettling and oneiric tinge, their muted palette contributing a reflective ambience. The seven new paintings that comprise *Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolves?* retain this mood in atmospheric scenarios of distance and isolation.

In *Girl in Window* (all works 2024), the subject's breasts are glimpsed through a small window, her head and shoulders covered by a fabric blind. A vine curls around the edge of the portal, one heart-shaped leaf shielding the left nipple like a fig leaf on a classical statue. There is a surreal charge to such semiotic shifts and withdrawals that is consistent with the fairy-tale reference of the exhibition's title, and that resonates with Weyant's previous works, especially eerie depictions of dollhouses such as *House Exterior* (2023).

In *It's Coming from inside the House*, a seated figure hides behind a large, blank newspaper that renders its reader wholly unavailable, a defensive mystery both within the world of the image and to the viewer of the work. *Here, My Dear* incorporates a framed portrait of a woman glancing over her left shoulder, the light from a window striking the wall against which the inverted likeness rests. The portrait image's off-kilter position contributes to a tension and ambiguity that hints at an ongoing reevaluation of identity and role.

Anna Weyant was born in 1995 in Calgary, Canada, and lives and works in New York. Group exhibitions include *HUMANMAKES*, Recharge Foundation, Singapore (2020); *and I will wear you in my heart of heart*, FLAG Art Foundation, New York (2021); *Artists Inspired by Music: Interscope Reimagined*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art (2022); *Women of Now: Dialogues of Memory, Place & Identity*, Green Family Art Foundation, Dallas (2022); *In New York, Thinking of You: Part II*, FLAG Art Foundation, New York (2023); *Friends & Lovers*, FLAG Art Foundation, New York (2023–24); *Femmes Artistes du Musée de Mougins*, Mougins, France (2024); and *Full Disclosure*, Plains Art Museum, Fargo, ND (2024).

#AnnaWeyant

ANNA WEYANT

Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolves?

Opening reception: Tuesday, October 8, 6–8pm

October 8–December 20, 2024

17–19 Davies Street, London

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