

**Sabrina Amrani is pleased to present *XOXO, comet boy*, the third solo exhibition of Timothy Hyunsoo Lee in the gallery**

Sabrina Amrani is pleased to present *XOXO, comet boy*, Timothy Hyunsoo Lee's third solo exhibition at the gallery.

The character of the *comet boy* was born out of Timothy's frustration with his realization that he, as an artist, was merely a vessel for production; life is short, everyone is meant to die; and ultimately, as a human he could not even breach the essence of spirituality – why we find wonder, emotions, beauty, and pain in this world. The comet boy emerges from this anxiety as a spiritual messiah that is autobiographical in nature but also universally relatable.

The works presented in *XOXO, comet boy* use the imagery of masks, and the process of masking and revealing, to narrate a story about the power structures that form an individual's identity – that of sexuality, religion, and racial politics. As such, the concept of borders pervades the works. Literal borders, and borders of the mind, of the body, and of one's comfort – all confine an individual to an identity they must either claim as their own or reject.

Ultimately, the comet boy is revealed to be a mask of the artist himself; bestowing personal and cultural traumas to a fictional character as a way of reinventing and re-narrating memories, lived experiences, and his own sense of identity. The *comet boy* is an investigator and instigator; he confronts the paradoxes of Lee's life and, removed from having lived those experiences, objectively reassembles memories in an attempt to resolve the many conflicting hemispheres of thought contained within.

The character confronts the artist's human anxieties -love, dreams, desires, and fears- from a more universal perspective: what do all these mortal concerns mean in the context of death? Once the inevitable and unidirectional trajectory of a life is realized, then borders cease to exist: borders on religion, identity, sexuality, borders of skin, of life, of migration. The comet boy is an ideal vehicle for the artist to explore and address these universal anxieties in this exhibition.

From 23rd to 26th February, Timothy Hyunsoo Lee will participate in the Open Studio festival, opening his studio to the public, professionals and collectors. Sabrina Amrani will also present works by Timothy Hyunsoo Lee at her booth in ARCOmadrid, and will offer an ARCOgallery Brunch Friday 1st March with the presence of the artist.

**OPENING XOXO, COMET BOY**

20th February 2019, 7.00 p.m. to 22.00 p.m.

Runs through 12th April 2019

Sabrina Amrani (Madera)  
Calle Madera, 23  
Metro: Line 5, Callao Station

**OPEN STUDIO MADRID**

23th-26th February 2019

Mornings: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

By apointment: 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Timothy Hyunsoo Lee Studio

Calle San Silvestre, 3. Bajo derecha

Metro: Line 5, Urgel Station

**ARCOGALLERY BRUNCH**

1st March 2019, 10.00 a.m. to 12 a.m.

Sabrina Amrani (Madera)

Calle Madera, 23

Metro: Line 5, Callao Station