
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Heather Guertin
The Whole

May 9th - June 27th

Opening Reception:
Saturday, May 9th
6-9 pm

Performance:
Saturday, May 9th. 8 pm
Guitar by *Woebe Guns*

Gallery Hours:
Wed-Sat 12-6 pm
or by appointment



Galería Agustina Ferreyra is pleased to announce *The Whole*, Heather Guertin's first solo presentation at the gallery.

For this occasion, Guertin created a series of abstractions. These abstractions though have been transformed with simple signifiers such as two eyes and the circular outline of a head. For each painting she began by looking at a different image of a modern interior. Although the original source is unrecognizable in the final painting, the color palette as well as the interior logic of each painting were built from the dramatic right angles and tonal values of architectural photography. By painting the characteristics unique to these interiors, Guertin renders depth and value in the abstracted compositions which implicitly communicate emotion and expression of individuality. The modern interior, a contained referent, is flattened by a sweeping arch that encompasses the structure while simultaneously

demolishing the ideal. This repetition of form reinforces the shared qualities of people rather than their individuality.

Her work integrates painting and writing with comedic performance. These creative practices inform and make tangible the artist's ongoing interest into the construction and development of the self. Within these language-based structures of storytelling and stand-up, she invents characters who are in the process of transformation and discovery. Combining these investigations, her paintings similarly explore self-realization through development of forms. While searching for the underlying humor that accompanies the artistic process, these emotions are performed through comedy and become self-awareness.

Heather Guertin (Worcester, 1981) earned a MFA from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She has performed in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, most recently at White Columns in New York and in conjunction with the Carnegie International in Pittsburgh. Recent exhibitions include *Development* at Brennan & Griffin, New York; *Aluminum Linoleum*, at Proyectos Monclova, Mexico City and *Heard* at Interstate, Brooklyn; as well as group exhibitions at Hussenot, Paris, Thomas Duncan Gallery, Los Angeles; Hagiwara Projects, Tokyo and Jack Hanley Gallery, New York. A monograph of her paintings and writing was recently published by Hassla on the occasion of her solo exhibition at Brennan & Griffin and her novella *Model Turned Comedian* was published by Social Malpractice and Publication Studio in 2013. Guertin is currently working on her second book *Not Yet Titled, Cambodia*, to be published later this year. She lives and works in Brooklyn, NY.

Image: *Listen*, 2015. Oil on canvas. 68 x 48 inches (172 x 121.92 cm) ©Heather Guertin