

# JUPITER

Jade Thacker: *Personal Weather*

Jupiter

May 19 – June 29, 2024

Opening reception: May 19, 6-8 PM

1217 71<sup>st</sup> Street, Miami Beach, FL 33141



Miami – May 14, 2024 – Jupiter is pleased to present a solo exhibition of new paintings by Brooklyn-based artist **Jade Thacker** that continue her longstanding practice of mining the internal dynamics of powerful emotional states and the often veiled way that they're presented outwardly. Her boldly colored figurative canvases thus convey the inner turmoil and subconscious tensions that are experienced by so many but simultaneously remain relatively unacknowledged and hard to define.

As Thacker visually manifests these tensions in the works on view, using color, shape, and anonymous subjects to articulate various psychological resonances, she finds beauty in the ineffable. Many of her works, particularly those which abstractly combine multiple figures—such as *Arrogant Spring*, *Heavy Weight (Belle Du Jour)*, *Personal Weather*, *Paper Thin*, and *Endurance* (all works 2024)—speak to the competing, perhaps even warring, voices of one's psyche. The fire-like reds, oranges, and yellows of *Endurance*, for example, reveal at least three figures. The large piercing eyes of a mask-like visage are superimposed with a standing figure, whose outstretched arm doubles as the face's mouth as it pushes the chin of another, horizontal figure downward. Though a conflict clearly unfolds, the specifics of this struggle remain allusive, especially when considering the flower and wing motifs that recur here and throughout many of Thacker's paintings. While these could potentially endow the composition at hand with a buoyancy and lightness to counterbalance the intense tones and figural arrangements, the loose suggestion of a flower that overtakes the background, is nearly solid black, lending an ominous quality to the scene.

This arrangement of a large visage that's abstracted by its intersection with another figure recurs in *Inside Weather*, but takes on a wholly difference cadence. Instead of manifesting a contentious environment, alight with a fierce glow, this composition marked by greens, blues, and yellows, is far more contemplative and somber. A central hand holds an umbrella as rain is seen falling outside a dark window, behind a reclining figure. Thacker's use of abstraction here discourages any suggestion of a literal time, place, and subject, but rather attempts to visualize the inarticulable—a feeling of melancholia, experienced but never quite spoken.

The disjuncture between internal feelings and external appearances are further mined by Thacker in *Arrogant Spring*. A nude woman kisses herself in the mirror, seemingly relishing in her own appearance, but another face with a rather large, ornate hairdo looms overhead, surveying herself in a handheld mirror. Though both figures gaze at their own reflections, the latter possesses a

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distinctly more self-conscious and shy countenance, suggesting that the effort taken to construct her outward appearance may in fact be a mask, hiding a vulnerability within.

While Thacker does not literally mask her subjects as a thematic device, notions of concealment and reveal manifest via the overlapping of figures and planes. *Bow and Exit* further exemplifies this tactic. Though it depicts a woman smiling, seemingly at ease with herself, the fact that she holds a semi-translucent veil in front of her face, begs one to question whether her outward expression is in fact reflective of her innermost truths.

## About the Artist

Jade Thacker (b. 1991, Boston, MA) received her BFA from Massachusetts College of Art and Design and has been featured in solo and group exhibitions at Kravets Wehby Gallery, New York; Public Gallery, London; WOAW gallery, Beijing; Fredericks & Freiser Gallery, New York; Haul Gallery, Brooklyn; Superchief Gallery, Queens; Museum of Sex, New York. Thacker has participated in residencies at Fountainhead Residency, Miami and The Cabin, Los Angeles. She currently lives and works in Brooklyn.

**Caption:** Jade Thacker, *Heavy Weight (Belle Du Jour)*, 2024, Oil on canvas, 80 by 70 in. 203.2 by 177.8 cm. © Jade Thacker. Courtesy of the artist and Jupiter, Miami Beach, FL.

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