



Over the Influence Presents

Royal Jarmon

Pigpen Punch

12 June to 24 July 2022



Royal Jarmon, *Pigpen*, 2022, Oil and acrylic on canvas, 182.9 by 213.4 cm, 72 by 84 in, Photo courtesy of the Artist and Over the Influence

Over the Influence is thrilled to present *Pigpen Punch*, premiering a new series of paintings by Royal Jarmon. The exhibition will be on view from June 12 - July 24, 2022 at the Los Angeles gallery.

Repetition is a recurring theme throughout Jarmon's ever-evolving practice. In this new body of work, Royal incorporates childhood imagery taken directly from a drawing the artist made as a child. What was once doodled onto a piece of paper is now immortalized through the means of a canvas.



The title of the show, *Pigpen Punch*, aptly illustrates the stylistic quality of the work. The human-sized smeared and smudged blossoms wave to the viewer from the canvas, as if smiling from a garden or a green pasture. With the same blooms reiterated on each canvas, the artist creates a symbolic language to be understood by those sensitive to the subject matter—botanists, children, and anyone who has ever admired the beauty of a flower. It is not a naturalistic rendering, but rather a simplified symbol of a flower. Petals and pollen-covered centers are reduced to lines and circles: lines for the petals and stems, circles for the flower centers and leaves. The scale of the paintings allows for larger-than-life blooms, creating the illusion of walking through a colorful and nostalgic garden reminiscent of itchy grass, stained knees, muddy palms, and paint covered fingers.

The artist's approach reflects the looseness of a child's paint-covered hand, met with the awareness of a seasoned color theorist. At first, the palette may appear haphazard, perhaps the colors a school kid would select out of immediacy, rather than methodical planning. However, the contrasting tones and varying techniques of paint application create a dynamic composition by layering flat crayon-box inspired colors with lambent neons. The flowers are not painted on top of the background, but rather the background is painted *around* the blossoms, revealing a white canvas barrier between the two as if it was cut and pasted right onto the support. The flat surface gains dimension through the translucent, watered-down and washed-out brush strokes. A vibrating subject matter is the result—one that is reminiscent of childhood but grounded in experiential technique and execution.

Artist Bio

Royal Jarmon (b. 1986) employs oil, acrylic, graphite, and sometimes sculpture to express observations of the human condition. Born in California, raised in the Midwest, Jarmon now lives and works in Brooklyn, NY, USA. His work has been exhibited at Over the Influence (Hong Kong), The Hole (New York, NY, USA), Plus-one gallery (Antwerp, Belgium), Eric Firestone Gallery (Hamptons, NY, USA), as well a sculpture release with Case Studyo (Belgium). Select Publication features include: Cool Hunting, New American Paintings, Artmaze Magazine. As well as residencies with Silver Arts in NYC and L21 in Mallorca, Spain.

Exhibition Dates

12 June to 24 July 2022

Location

Over the Influence LA
833 East 3rd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Media Contact

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