



Over the Influence Presents

Hiroya Kurata

Blunderbuss

20 May to 2 July 2023



Hiroya Kurata, *Blunderbuss*, 2023, Oil on canvas, 182.9 by 147.3 cm, 72 by 58 in, Photo courtesy of the Artist and Over the Influence

Over the Influence is pleased to present Brooklyn-based artist Hiroya Kurata's third solo exhibition with the gallery, Blunderbuss. This exhibition opens on May 20th and will remain on view through July 2, 2023.

"I'm painting my life. Nothing more," says Kurata. And certainly nothing less. The sixteen works in *Blunderbuss* record what it's like to be alive in the year 2023 in America's largest, most culturally robust city, New York. This is what food looks like. (Highly processed white cake with frosting and strawberries.) This is what children looked like. (Chaotic, cheerful blurs of energetic life force in cotton shorts.) And light. (Dappled.) And parks. (Serene.) And mothers. (Overworked but ever-present.) The exhibition serves as evidence, testament, and proof of the way we lived and the ways we made sense of the rapidly evolving world around us.

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The Japanese word enikki means photo diary. Each of these paintings is based on a photo from Kurata's enikki. As the father of three young children, his diary is consumed mostly by photos of them, his wife, the toys they play with, the activities they enjoy, the park by their house that they visit as often as they can. The title of the show is even borrowed from a children's book beloved by his daughter titled Three Robbers. While the story refers to the antique shotguns with flared muzzles, the homonym applies equally well to the often blundering, clumsy movements of children.

Artist Bio

Hiroya Kurata was born in Japan in 1980, and lives and works in New York, USA. He received his BFA from Parsons School of Design and currently living in New York City. His paintings combine representations of found imagery with those of personal remembrances, creating scenes that feel at once familiar and strangely disconcerting. Referencing the visual language of manga and landscape paintings, Kurata explores the conception and emotion of nostalgia.

Exhibition dates:

20 May to 2 July 2023

Location:

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

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