

Jules de Balincourt

Exhibition: 4 October–2 November 2024

16 Wharf Road, London N1 7RW



Image: Jules de Balincourt in his Brooklyn studio, 2024. Photo by Kyle Knodell. © Jules de Balincourt. Courtesy the artist and Victoria Miro

Victoria Miro is delighted to announce an exhibition of new paintings by Jules de Balincourt taking place at the gallery in London this autumn. New writing on the artist by Bob Nickas accompanies the exhibition.

Jules de Balincourt's paintings are states of mind rather than descriptions of reality. In this new body of work, the Brooklyn-based artist continues his exploration of painting as an intuitive process, resulting in fantasy-like worlds in which landscapes and seascapes interplay with more abstract works.

In de Balincourt's paintings land and sea become sites of possibility and escape, while also containing elements of mysterious unease. Rather than rely on sketch, photography, or direct reference, the artist's process initially involves him building up many translucent layers of paint, working from abstraction into a figurative depiction. In these ambiguous, evocative spaces, where figures seem to be in perpetual motion, one senses the movement of an ever-changing, volatile world. At times, landscapes and figures start to break down into more abstract imagery, retaining figurative elements that allude to meditation or escape from our reality. Often, large and small paintings co-exist, sometimes arranged in a salon-style installation, leaving the viewer to free-associate between the images on view.

About the artist

Jules de Balincourt, born in Paris, France in 1972, lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. De Balincourt's work has been the subject of a number of international solo exhibitions at institutions including Centro de Arte Contemporáneo, Málaga, Spain (2021); Kasseler Kunstverein, Kassel, Germany (2015); The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, Texas, USA (2014–2015); Rochechouart Museum of Contemporary Art, Rochechouart, France (2014); Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Montreal, USA (2013); Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan (2010) and Vanderbilt University Fine Arts Gallery, Nashville, USA (2008).

De Balincourt's work has also been included in a number of significant group exhibitions, including *Unnatural Nature: Post-Pop Landscapes*, Acquavella Galleries, Florida, USA (2022); *Rehang*, Collezione Maramotti, Reggio Emilia, Italy (2019–ongoing); *Les Enfants du Paradis*, MUba Eugene Leroy Tourcoing, France (2019) and *Eldorama*, Le Tripostal, Lille, France (2019) both as part of *Eldorado: Lille 3000* (2019); *The Biennial of Painting*, Museum Dhondt-Dhaenens (MDD), Deurle, Belgium (2018); *The New Frontiers of Painting*, Fondazione Stelline, Milan, Italy (2017); *The Universe and Art*, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan (2016); *L'Ange de l'Histoire*, curated by Nicolas Bourriaud at le Palais des Beaux-Arts, Paris, France (2013); *New York Minute*, Garage Center for Contemporary Culture, Moscow, Russia (2011) and the 10th Havana Biennial, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Havana, Cuba (2009).

Works by the artist are included in the collections of Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York, USA; Collezione Maramotti, Reggio Emilia, Italy; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, USA; MaRT, Museo di arte moderna e contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto, Rovereto, Italy; Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Montreal, Canada; Musée départemental d'art contemporain de Rochechouart, Rochechouart, France; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA, USA; Portland Art Museum, Portland, ME, USA, among others.

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