

## **An Te Liu and Jemima Murphy: *Tracing***

February 19–March 29

4859 Fountain Ave, Los Angeles

Announcing **An Te Liu and Jemima Murphy: *Tracing***, presented by Victoria Miro Projects and Anat Ebgi. On view at Anat Ebgi, 4859 Fountain Ave, Los Angeles from February 19–March 29. An opening reception will take place on Wednesday, February 19 from 6–8 pm.

*Tracing* includes sculptures by Taiwanese-born, Canadian artist An Te Liu and paintings by London-based artist Jemima Murphy. Rooted in a lineage of modernist sculpture and abstract painting, Liu and Murphy explore themes of belonging, nostalgia, and memory. Distinct in form, each artist follows a process led by their search for something to be revealed, uncovering histories, pulling back the curtain of subconsciousness. *Tracing* finds a sublime clarity and spaciousness through suspension, gravity, and repetition. United by performative and gestural underpinnings, their sustained fascinations, constant retellings, and transformations fuse the present with the past.

Liu's sculptures take their origins from objects intended to protect and enhance. Working in bronze, ceramic, and concrete, his sculptures are often composed and cast from foam packing materials, sports equipment, and other collected relics from the artist's life. There is a uniting of the ordinary with the mythic and a convergence of the natural and manmade. Citing the history of Modernism and its hubristic desire for purity and refinement, Liu's transgenerational signals of the body and memory mutate and devolve. Other works make reference to architectural forms, such as the stacked and repeating form of *Wúxiàn*, which alludes to pagodas of East and Southeast Asia, and takes its shape from the Chinese takeout box. Inspired by histories, Liu's interventions are suffused with allusions to both personal and archetypal meanings.

Murphy's dynamic abstractions draw on the physicality of paint in tandem with the psychological and emotional potential of color, gesture and memory. In works such as *Unlocked* or *Untamed*, a linen ground acts as foil to saturated hues; with each painted layer mirroring the accumulation of collective emotional memory. Murphy's background in theater informs her process; in particular her approach to gesture, the interaction between artist, material and the action of myriad techniques in which paint is poured and dripped in washes as well as applied in urgent, rhythmic strokes. Retaining the 'live' quality of performance and a character of openness, her work is poised between the intuitive and the improvised, with brush marks coalescing in cloud-like congregation or floral burst.

**An Te Liu** (b. 1967, Tainan, Taiwan) received his MArch from the Southern California Institute of Architecture in Los Angeles and his BA in Art History at the University of Toronto. Working predominantly within sculpture and installation, Liu's work has been exhibited in venues including the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebaek, Denmark; Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art, Rotterdam, Netherlands; Kunsthalle Vienna, Austria; the EVA Biennial of Ireland; the Venice Biennale of Architecture; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA; and Anat Ebgi, Los Angeles, CA.

His works are included in the permanent collections of The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, The Louis Vuitton Foundation, Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art, The Art Institute of Chicago, The National Gallery of Canada and The Art Gallery of Ontario. Liu lives and works in Toronto, Canada.

**Jemima Murphy** (b. 1992, London, UK) graduated from City & Guilds of London Art School. Murphy's work was the subject of solo exhibitions at Victoria Miro Projects, Online (2024) and EDJI Gallery, Brussels, Belgium (2023). Group exhibitions include *A New British Modernity*, Burberry Seoul Flagship, Seoul, Korea (2024); Victoria Miro Projects at Untitled Art, Miami Beach, USA (2024); *lbf @ the lake*, lbf contemporary, Muskoka, Canada (2024); *Gesture & Form: Women in Abstraction*, Almine Rech, New York, USA (2024); *In The Know, Show*, Green Family Art Foundation, Texas, USA (2024); *Something Woman\* This Way Comes*, Patricia Low Contemporary, Gstaad, Switzerland (2024); *Beautiful Twisted Mind*, MINT Gallery, Munich, Germany (2023); and *Beyond Figuration: Then and Now*, Gillian Jason Gallery, London, UK (2023).

Her work has been acquired by various public and private collections including Midas Collection, Los Angeles, USA; Green Family Art Foundation, Texas, USA; The Nixon Collection, London, UK; and The Scalpel Building Collection, London, UK. Murphy lives and works in London, UK.