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Artists explore 'Other Worlds' in new group exhibition



The Skylight Gallery



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A new group show in Chelsea will open your eyes to each artist's unique stretch of his and her imagination. Curated by artist Jill Slaymaker, the show is titled *Other Worlds*. The artists in this show present paintings, photography, and other installations that revolve around the idea that there are many types of alternate universes that exist.

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One particularly alluring work of art in the show is an oil painting by Patricia Wersinger known as *Cythere* which was inspired by Jean-Antoine Watteau's painting *Pelerinage a l'île de Cythere*. Wersinger's replication is an aesthetically pleasing blend of soft, pastel colors. The subjects are a group of women who appear to be in a dreamy state of mind and are dressed in fancy 18th century attire, with a view of the ocean in the background.

There are also notions of simple joy and innocence with images of animals and a young girl playing the flute in the corner.

Childlike innocence is equally evident in David Rios Ferreira's painted drawings where he combines children's cartoons and historical folklore with his interest in child psychology. He is particularly influenced by Puerto Rican culture and his work features images of young boys floating happily in the air, playing out narratives that explore the emotional, sexual, and psychological complexities of the colonial history.

Also of note are Margaret Withers' mixed media works where she explores the subject of the domestic environment. Most of her works show houses that tilt, sway, or huddle together in the midst of chaotic surroundings. Similarly, Lily Prince illustrates disarray in the natural world and making it seem beautiful in her watercolor paintings such as in *San Giovanni D'Asso* inspired by a trip to Italy.

Sara Jimenez's contribution is certainly one of the more unique ones. She conveys the impact that memory can have on a person in both physical and spiritual ways by presenting pieces of skin-colored fabric with outlines of dresses lightly penciled in. These works titled *In Between* represent the memory of Jimenez's grandmother with images of her grandmother's favorite dresses embedded on her body.

At **The Skylight Gallery**, 538 W. 29th St., through Apr. 4th. The gallery is open by appointment on Saturdays from 11 a.m.—6 p.m.

Suggested by the author

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