

Symbiosis: Virtues Tjebbe Beekman

Keizersgracht 241, Amsterdam
March 12 – April 24, 2021



Tjebbe Beekman | *Symbiosis IX* (triptych) | 2021

GRIMM is pleased to announce *Symbiosis: Virtues*, a solo exhibition of new paintings by Tjebbe Beekman, opening on March 12, 2021 at our Keizersgracht location in Amsterdam (NL).

Tjebbe Beekman's dynamic paintings engage with a range of intersecting traditions while acting as meditations on the present moment. Beekman's new works are part of an ongoing series exploring his influences from 20th century art, in which he constructs a reality with unexpected turns, distorting time and perceptual space. In these works, narrative is an entry point to connect aesthetic questions that lead to a contemporary position. The artist uses an associative process of image-making to cross the threshold between history and his gaze as an observer of the world today.

For his recent debut exhibition in New York, Beekman referenced the seven deadly sins in a series of paintings with vivid imagery alluding to each of these transgressions.

In his new works, he continues upon this theme by depicting the seven heavenly virtues and links the exhibitions conceptually with a central triptych at the heart of each show. Although this series is born from religious notions of excess or restraint, the artist's painterly language of anthropomorphic forms allows space for collective subjectivity. Contrasting each sin with its corresponding virtue, Beekman animates the oppositions and parallels between them. This tension intrigues Beekman, particularly as it relates to current affairs.

Beekman has always been tuned into the world around him, and as one who feels deeply, his emotions are necessarily injected into his work. Along with the symbolic dimensions of his practice, Beekman's methods are anchored in technical ability. He oscillates between figuration and abstraction, building a rhythmic, painterly language that accommodates multi-layered narratives.

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For more information, interview and royalty free image requests, please contact the gallery:
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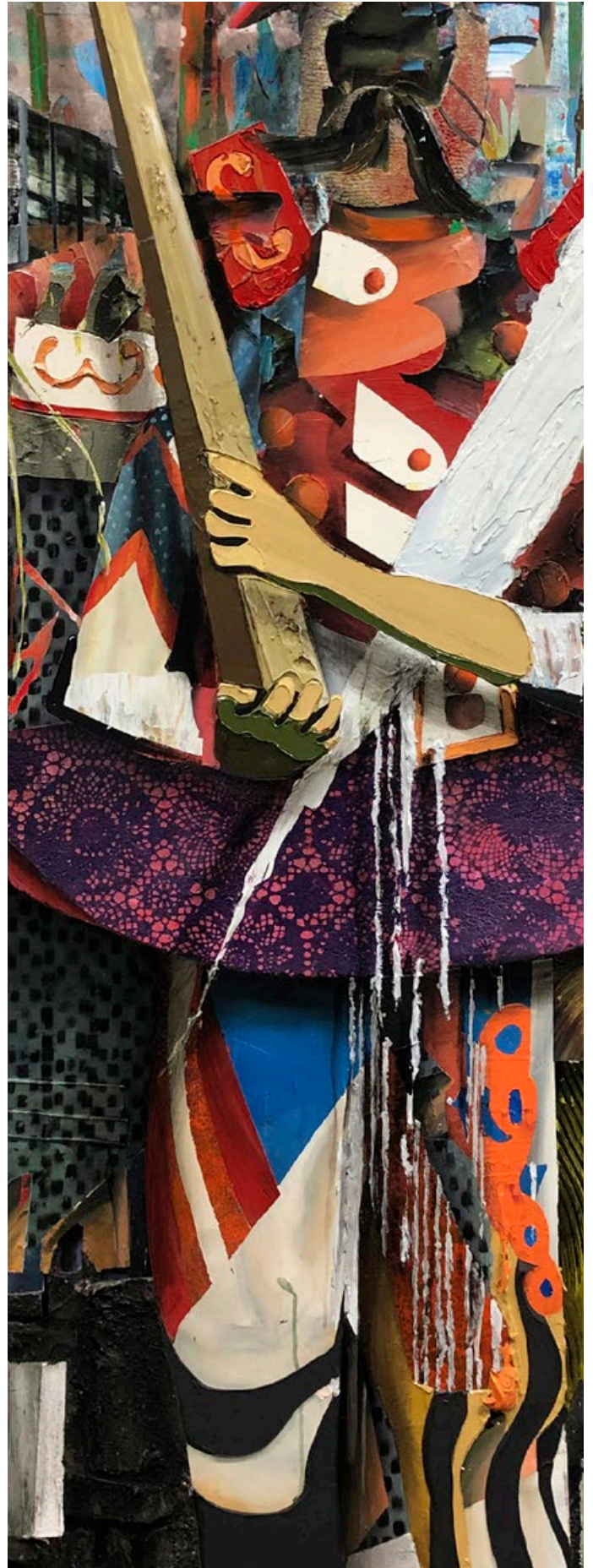
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The complex architectural structures that defined his earlier works translate into moments of detailed accuracy which are mixed with fragmented forms in his new paintings. As a tireless innovator in the studio Beekman continues to push the expressive potential of the medium; layers of paint intermixed with elements such as sand and plaster bring to life the materials as they emerge from the surface evoking the underlying sentiment of the painter.

This is Beekman's second solo exhibition with the gallery. The artist's first major monograph, designed by Irma Boom, will be published in the spring of 2021.



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