

CAN | CHRIS AKORDALITIS, PABLO BENZO, AMIR H. FALLAH, ALEKSANDAR TODOROVIC

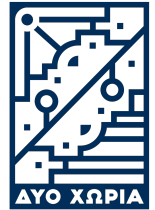
Dio Horia Gallery is pleased to participate in the 2022 inaugural edition of Contemporary Art Now, with a group presentation of new works by Chris Akordalitis, Pablo Benzo, Amir H. Fallah and Aleksandar Todorovic, created especially for CAN Ibiza 2022.

Chris Akordalitis presents his latest larger-scale *You and Me* portrait, as well as the *Under the tree* series, including four smaller-size oil paintings on canvas, all revolving around the same, idyllic theme of togetherness and affection. The utopian frame of reference in Akordalitis' work, holding a strong grip on our collective imagination, embodies, in a way, a delightful form of escapism, seeking security in a fantasy world that is a genuine pleasure to get lost in, putting at the same time on central stage the artist's love for geometry. All-in-all we find ourselves running into some surprising versions of the yin-yang symbol, where the other is to the artist much more than just a transcendent ego; ergo, the individual sees the world through the other's eyes and then returns to its own center with new perspective and understanding.

Pablo Benzo's still life paintings *A breath of universal delirium*, *Marios chair in Sagunto*, *Mesa con mantel y lámpara con duraznos* and *Pear and orange* go a long way beyond the representation of mere objects. Somehow, these images look like echoing personalities, structuring compositions that may equally bring to mind landscapes or portraits, at a subconscious level. As feeling is a fundamental part of the process, we encounter an exemplary case of selective memory: here, evading confirmation bias or recalling information in a manner that confirms preexisting beliefs and hypotheses, the artist rather explores and conquers a wild land in the making, designing a proverbial map that results in a visual memoir, assembled by different dimensions of the subject-matter that push the creative journey to completion, establishing sentiment as the most important element of the picture.

Amir H. Fallah's *A letter to my countrymen* and *To exist and to live*, are highly political works, adhering to the artist's recurrent inquiries, following a lengthy & dexterous technique. These are also about rare cases where the artist, deftly integrating personal and collective narratives, draws away from a typical subversive practice of covering his subjects in drapery, so as not to be able to identify their physical features. Delivering a sharp comment on the war, calling the attention to all that contemporary man seems to find insignificant, Fallah's profound & poetic compositions reflect on how indifferent we are to the moral worth of our actions, reveling in the brazenness, uninterested in the consequences; hence, this very day, we keep indifferent to our conscience, indifferent to all our instincts, as our dystopian nightmares are coming true.

Politically engaged art by Aleksandar Todorovic appears to be a conceptually evolved critique on the political landscape, popular culture, and its many facets. As it happens, in his signature egg tempera on wooden board works *Stay Safe*, *Saint FFBF celebrity*



and *Dichotomy of Stereotypes*, the artist approaches the concept of evil from different angles, in an attempt to understand its origins and its ramifications, making use of politically incorrect humor, deceptively attractive colors and cartoon-like cheerfulness. In reverse, his latest *Circle of love* exits polarities and investigates a way out of the doom and gloom, where true connection emerges as a viable solution to the dystopia of our times: "If the world seems in trouble / Stop with the doomscrolling / Put your phone down and relax / Look me in the eyes my love / Time moves fast and life is short / This moment is all we have".

CAN, Contemporary Art Now, is a curated and invitation-only art fair, emphasizing on new contemporary languages, that takes place in the Mediterranean island of Ibiza. A meeting point for artists, art collectors, enthusiasts and international vips, CAN brings together over thirty galleries from Europe, America and Asia, presenting more than 100 artists at its venue, Ctra. D'Eivissa a Sant Antoni, on July 13 – 17, 2022.

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Short Bios

— **Chris Akordalitis** (b.1989, Paphos, Cyprus) lives and works in Paphos. He received an MFA from Kunst academy in Düsseldorf, where he studied painting under Prof. Andreas Schulze and sculpture under the artist Tony Cragg. Selected solo exhibitions include: 'Inside/Outside' at Expo Chicago, Dio Horia Gallery, Chicago; 'Fragile Gods' at Dio Horia Gallery, Athens. Selected group exhibitions include: 'After Hope' at Dio Horia Gallery, Athens, 'Untitled Miami', Dio Horia Gallery, Miami; 'Friends ~~Not~~ Show' at Dio Horia Gallery, Athens. His work has been reviewed by Artsy, Juxtapoz, ArtObserver, Art Chosun and other cultural media. Akordalitis' work has been part of prominent art collections, including Forecast Städtische at Galerie Kaarst, Kaarst; Gallery Pop68, Cologne; Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow; Planet 58 Kunstsammlung [K21], Düsseldorf; Water House of Art, Paphos; Xiao Museum, Rizhao; Zuzeum Art Centre, Riga.

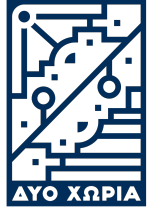
— **Pablo Benzo** (b.1982, Santiago, Chile) lives and works in Berlin. Benzo studied graphic design at the University of Chile in 2009. Selected solo exhibitions include: 'Inner Landscapes' at BC Gallery, Basel; 'Some Velvet Morning', Artist residency, Dio Horia Gallery, Mykonos, 'El Ruido Vano en la Entrada del Silencio' at Galería Animal, Santiago; 'The Great Silence of These Distances' at Cass Contemporary, Florida. Selected group exhibitions include: 'The Breakfast Club' at Eligere, Seoul; 'After Hope' at Dio Horia Gallery, Athens, 'East Hampton Hole' at The Hole Gallery, New York; 'Domesticity' at Volery Gallery, Dubai; 'Collectiva XII' at Galería Animal, Santiago; 'The New Classics' show at C.O.A. Gallery, Montreal. His work has been featured in major cultural media, such as Juxtapoz and Mutual Art, among others. Benzo's work is currently part of prestigious art collections, including Colección Casa, Santiago; Deji Museum, Nanjing; Foundation Medianoche0, Granada; Xiao Museum, Rizhao.



— **Aleksandar Todorovic** (b. 1982, Belgrade, Serbia) lives and works in Belgrade. Todorovic graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Belgrade with a Master in Fine Arts. Selected solo exhibitions include: 'Brave New Normal World' at Dio Horia Gallery, Athens; 'Religion remastered' at Contemporary Art Gallery at Museum of Smederevo, Smederevo; 'Buy it all, Eat it all' at Dio Horia Gallery, Mykonos; 'Aleksandar Todorovic, Pop-up Show' at Tim Faulkner Gallery, Louisville. Selected group exhibitions include: 'refinerymonastery', 20th Biennial of Art in Pančevo, Pančevo; 'Days Of Future Present' at Plan X Gallery, Milan; 'Untitled', at Ningbo Art Museum, Ningbo; 'Black & White vs. Color' at Richard Heller Gallery, LA; 'Art is where the heart is vol.6' at Droste gallery, Paris; 'Untitled Art Fair' at Dio Horia Gallery, Miami, MAP Kellergalerie, Vorarlberg; 'Iconostasis of capitalism' at Beers Contemporary, London. Todorovic has been selected for the publication and exhibition "100 Painters of Tomorrow" by Thames & Hudson and Beers Contemporary. He has been featured in various magazines, such as HEY!, Ink & Arrows, Neuroblasto, Ideafixa and Superpaper, as well as in art websites, like Artforum International, Juxtapoz, Widewalls, Yatzer and Risha. Todorovic's work is included in prominent art collections, such as the Dakis Joannou and Sumatovacka Art Education collections.

— **Amir H. Fallah** (b. 1979, Tehran, Iran) lives and works in Los Angeles. Fallah received his BFA in Fine Art & Painting at the Maryland Institute College of Art and his MFA in Painting at the University of California, Los Angeles. Selected solo exhibitions include: 'Joy As An Act Of Resistance', Denny Dimin Gallery, Hong Kong, 'You Can't Teach What You Don't Know', Dio Horia Gallery, Athens, Greece, 'The Facade Project', San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, San Jose, 'Scatter My Ashes On Foreign Lands', MOCA Tucson, 'What It Means To Be An American', South Dakota Museum of Art, Brookings, 'Unknown Voyage', Schneider Museum of Art, Ashland, Oregon, 'The Caretaker', Nerman Museum Of Art, Overland Park. Selected group exhibitions include: 'Foresight Prevents Blindness', Fine Arts Center Gallery, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, 'Evocations · Celebrating the Museum's Collection', Nerman Museum Of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, 'Next To You', McEvoy Foundation For The Arts, San Francisco, 'A Boundless Drop To A Boundless Ocean', Orlando Museum Of Art, Orlando, 'Friends Non Show', Dio Horia Gallery, Athens, 'LA Painting', Museum Of Art and History, Lancaster, 'We Must Risk Delight: Twenty Artists from Los Angeles', 56th La Biennale di Venezia, Venice and the 9th Sharjah Biennial, Sharjah. Fallah has received a multitude of awards, including the Vermont Corridor Public Sculpture Commission by the LA Art the COLA Artist fellowship, the Artadia Award, the Northern Trust Purchase Prize at EXPO Chicago, and the Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters and Sculptors Grant. He has been featured in The New York Times, Artforum and The Guardian, among other cultural media. Fallah's work is part of preeminent art collections, such as the Cerritos College Public Art Collection, Norwalk; The Microsoft Collection; Neuman Museum, Kansas City; Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami; Plattsburg State Art Museum, Plattsburgh; Salsali Private Museum, Dubai; the SMART Museum of Art at the University of Chicago, Chicago.

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— Presentation info

**Chris Akordalitis, Pablo Benzo,
Amir H. Fallah, Aleksandar Todorovic**
CAN Art Fair Ibiza
Booth #A1
July 13 – July 17, 2022

Dio Horia Acropolis
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— Upcoming Exhibitions & Fairs

Amir H. Fallah: A Natural Selection
Solo Show
Dio Horia Acropolis
September 17 – October 17, 2022

**Amir H. Fallah, Laure Mary-Couégnias,
Tatiana Zagari (Pottato)**
Enter Art Fair
Booth #68
August 25 – August 28, 2022

Selma Parlour: Warp & Weft
Solo Show
Dio Horia Acropolis
September 17 – October 22, 2022