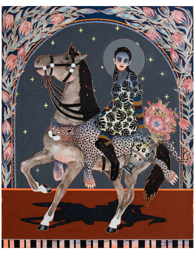


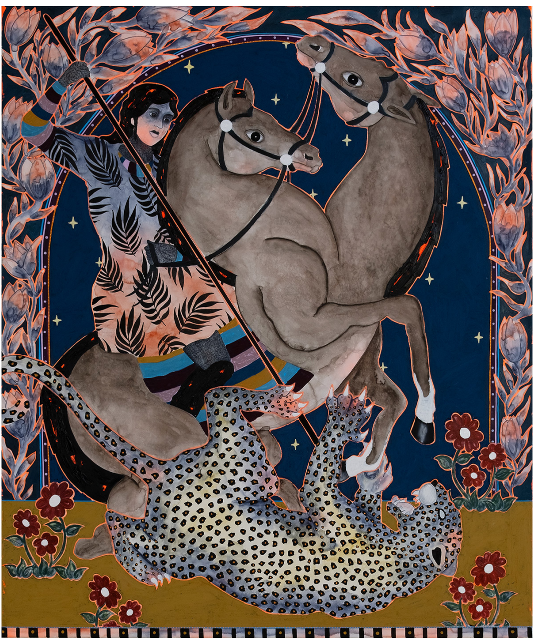
Painting

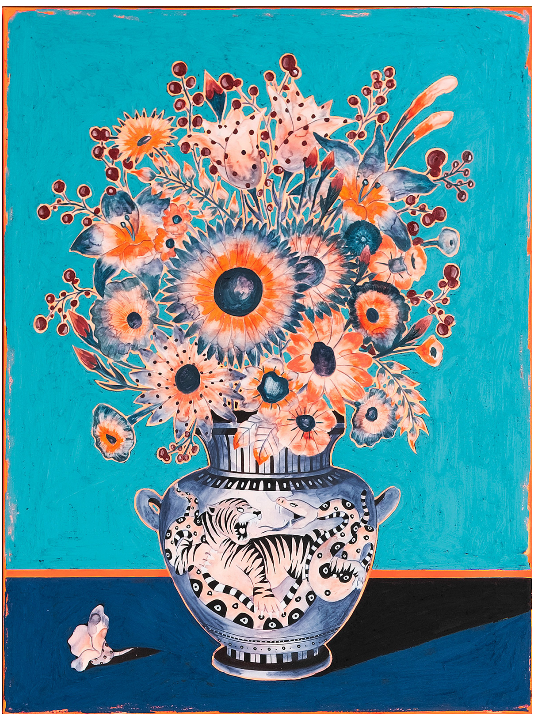
“Wildflowers” by Artist Rune Christensen

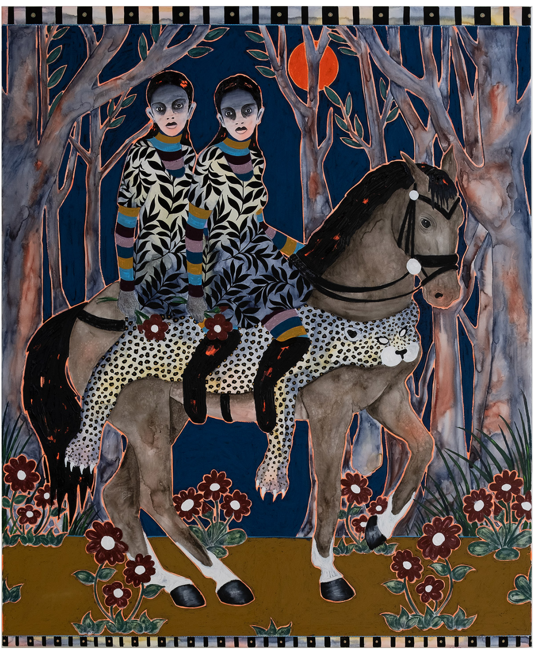
30.05.23 – STAFF

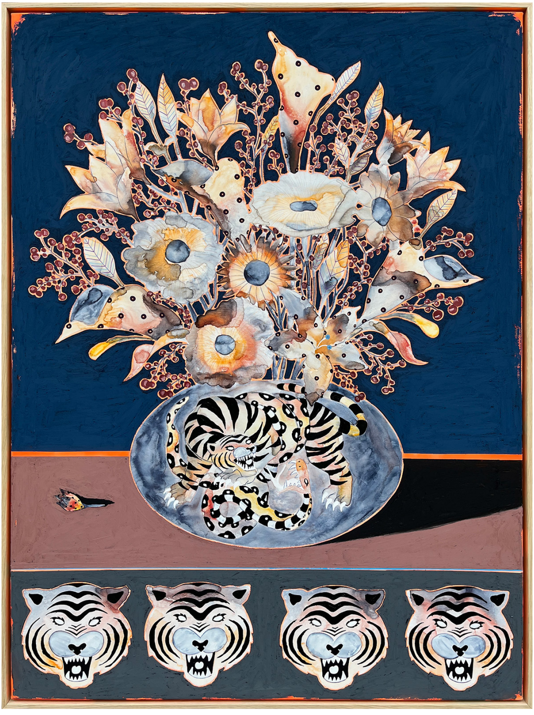
A new series of paintings by Danish artist Rune Christensen (previously featured here). “Wildflowers” takes the form of a fairytale inspired by the stories Christensen invented for his two daughters. Spanning from the ancient past to the distant future, the images follow two fearsome warriors travelling on horseback through the forest at night, gathering flowers and fighting predators they meet along the way. While filled with bravery and drama, the “knight princesses” are depicted with loose, watery brush-strokes in a way that suggests a slightly melancholic or fragile sense of time and beauty.

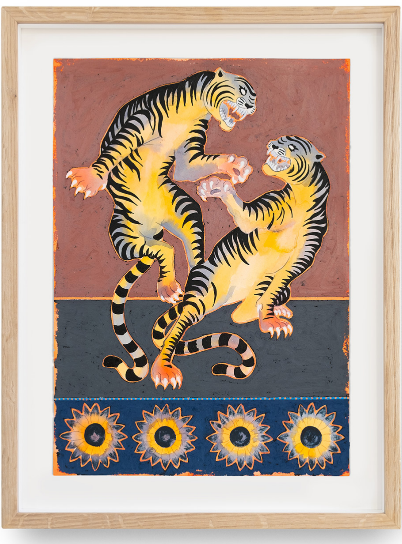
Christensen has always approached painting as a way of making sense of his own experiences, often incorporating a vast array of references into his distinct style and colour choices. This latest series touches on a recent trip to Alberta, Canada, a province colloquially known as “wild rose country.” While the horses allude to the local cowboy culture, the series also touches on ideas around cultivation and wilderness. That is, not just the taming of the land but of ourselves through the social norms we choose to reinforce. The recurring motif of the vase similarly refers to the passage of time, human evolution, our desire to own nature and attempts to contain it. See more images from “Wildflowers” below or on display at Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery starting June 1st.

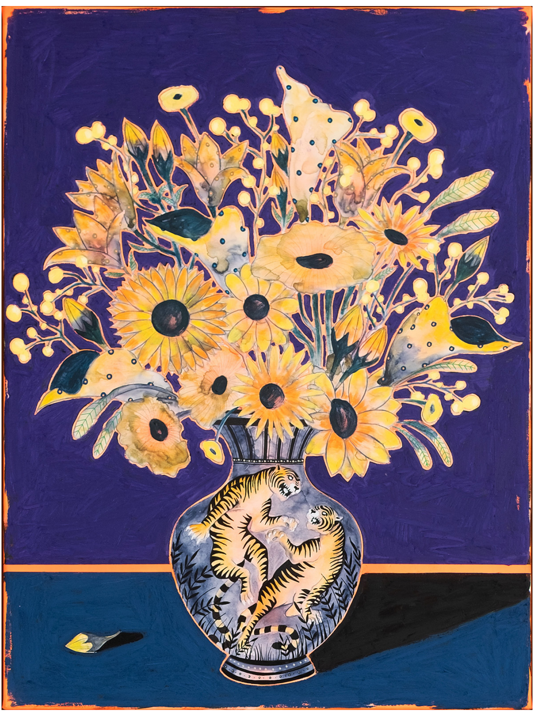


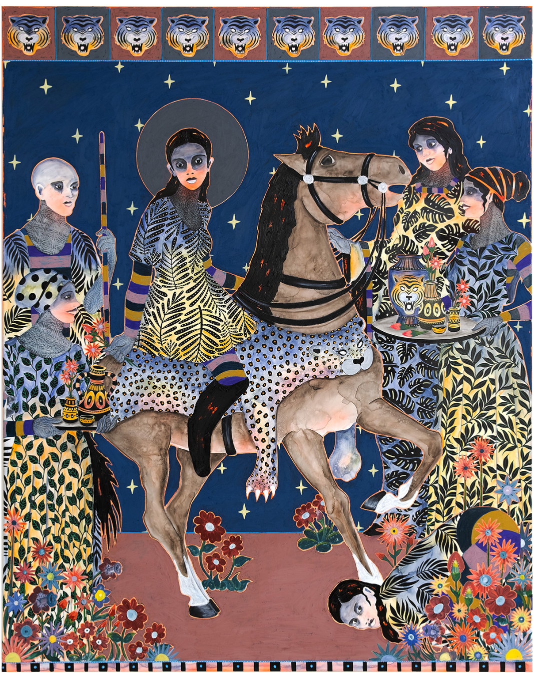


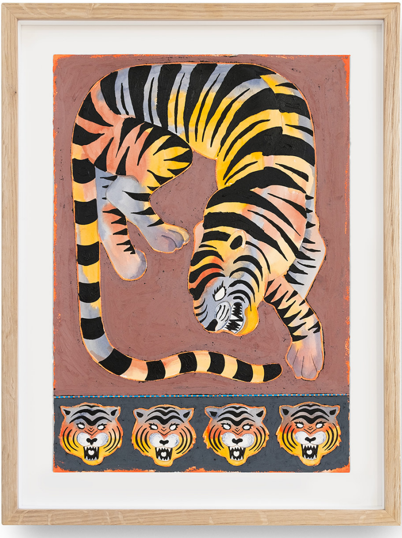


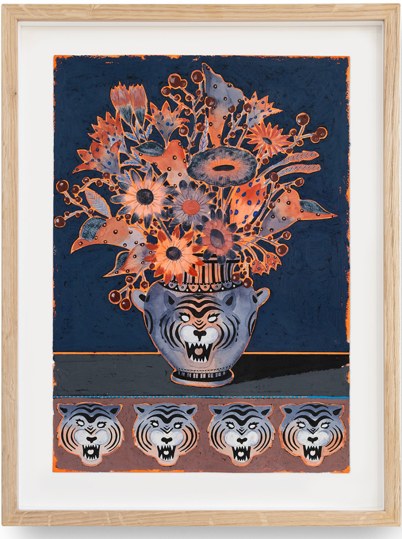


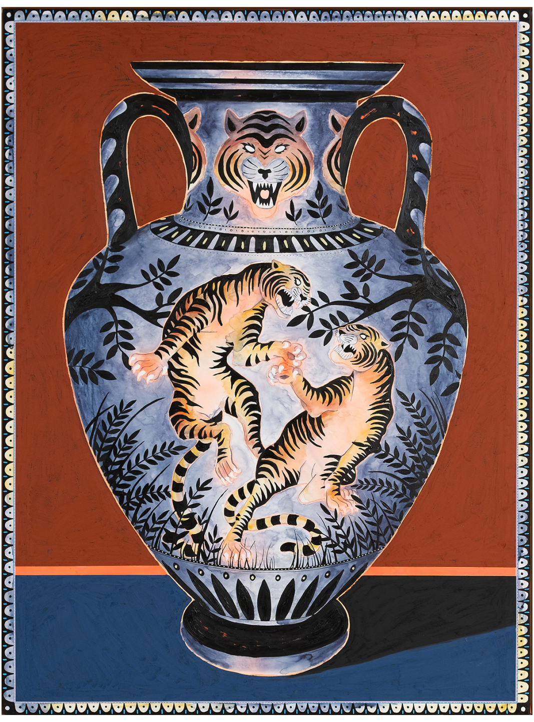


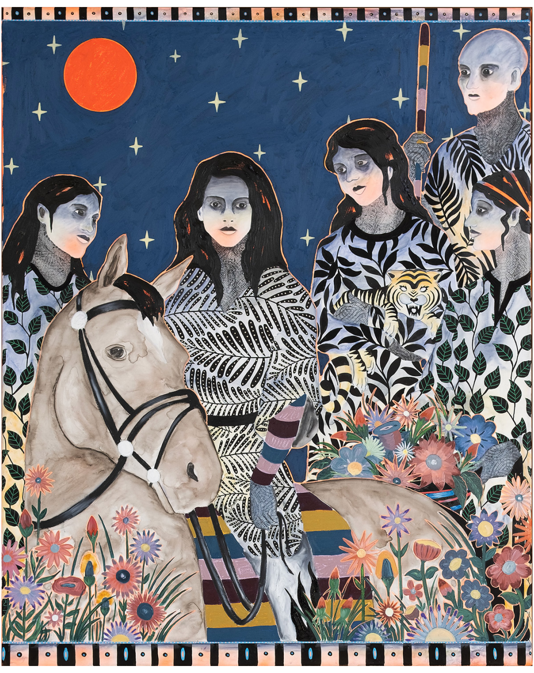












Rune Christensen on Instagram

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Photo

“The Earth Would Die If The Sun Stopped Kissing Her” by Photographer Eman Ali

29.05.23 – STAFF

From Oman and based in Bahrain, photographer Eman Ali combines photography, text, sound, and installations to delve into the complex interplay between gender, religion, and socio-political ideologies in the Khaleeji culture. By using her practice as a means of social critique, observation, and investigation of the layered histories of the Arabian Peninsula and East Africa, Ali provides a unique and insightful perspective on the societal norms that often go unspoken. Her work invites us to consider the untold stories of our society and reflect on the systems that shape our experiences.

Her series, “The Earth Would Die If The Sun Stopped Kissing Her,” offers a tapestry of interwoven tales that investigate the evidence of human presence, our connections and sources, the relationship between nature and humanity, and the realization of the future. Throughout the project’s one-month duration, Ali engaged in a contemplative examination of her surroundings in Oman, oscillating between private interior spaces and the ordinariness of the everyday. The result is a collection of 100 images that highlight our human connection to the earth and to one another. It also delves into overarching themes of separation, death, the possibility of life beyond our planet, and searching for a higher power. The series showcases individuals from the region — artists, friends, and strangers she encounters — whom she celebrates for their beauty and singularity.

"The Earth Would Die If The Sun Stopped Kissing Her" is an intimate, diary-esque documentation of Ali's daily experience that pays tribute to the land in which she lives. See more images from the project below.

Eman Ali's Website

Eman Ali on Instagram

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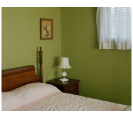

"Southern Fiction" by Photographer Tema Stauffer

24.06.22 – ANNA