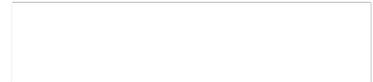


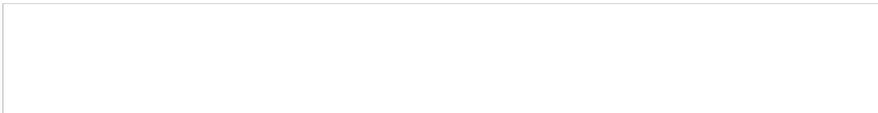
[January 14, 2013 \(http://fadmagazine.com/2013/01/14/group-show-four-seasons-at-arteco-private-view-tuesday-15th-january-2013/\)](http://fadmagazine.com/2013/01/14/group-show-four-seasons-at-arteco-private-view-tuesday-15th-january-2013/) by [Mark Westall](http://Fadmagazine.Com/Author/Mark/)
([Http://Fadmagazine.Com/Author/Mark/](http://Fadmagazine.Com/Author/Mark/))



Group Show: Four Seasons at ArtEco Private view Tuesday 15th January 2013



(<http://fadmagazine.com/wp-content/uploads/20130114-144448.jpg>)





<http://fadmagazine.com/wp-content/uploads/20130114-143737.jpg>



<http://fadmagazine.com/wp-content/uploads/20130114-143745.jpg>

16th of January – 16th of February

Emer O'Brien, [Juliette Mahieux-Bartoli](http://fadmagazine.com/tag/juliette-mahieux-bartoli/) (<http://fadmagazine.com/tag/juliette-mahieux-bartoli/>), Mathew Tom.

Imagine a table with no guests; plates and glasses in disarray, the only trace of clattering dishes and tinkling laughter evident in rumpled napkins and breadcrumbs strewn across used cutlery. There are faces, and they look down upon the scene, but they do not sit at the table, nor are they of the sitters of that table, but rather, faces of what might have been, of imagined guests in the minds eye of the creator. Exploring notions of changeability, transience and the sublime, ArtEco Gallery, London, is proud to present its new group exhibition 'Four Seasons, featuring works by Emer O'Brien, Juliette Mahieux-Bartoli and Mathew Tom.

Dublin-born Emer O'Brien's The Four Seasons, consists of a series of photographs depicting the passing of time. Originally inspired by the Dutch Masters still life paintings after a trip to Amsterdam in 2011 as well as Gabriel Axil's Babette's Feast, the work combines O'Brien's interests in installation and performance. O'Brien has cooked a series of indulgent brunches and dinners, hosted at a long trestle table in her studio. With the walls blacked out, these gatherings have an intimate atmosphere, and, with the revellers gone, leave the empty table and dregs of food and drink nestled in this dark, quiet space. O'Brien then documents these settings. "The De Walvisch Cultureship commissioned the first [such] image in the series the De Walvisch Soup Salon, Dec 2011," she explains. "The directors and artist friends Zatorski & Zatorski asked if I would make portraits of the Salon Members. But rather

than turn my camera upon the individual members I proposed photographing their place setting at the inaugural dinner... I had for some time longed to photograph a table with these smaller intimate and original details absorbed into a larger conciliation while alluding to things and conversations now passed. "In this sense, O'Brien's photographs become portraits of times and people at once absent and present – their mark left, like fingerprints, in the evidence of what once was. Here, in 12 analogue negatives carefully stitched together, *The Four Seasons* is presented to the viewer as a landscape of sorts, or rather, a tablescape.

For Franco-Italian artist Juliette Mahieux-Bartoli, *Four Seasons* is as much a modern theme as it is a classical one. "Our perception of time is a fascinating subject because it is a vital factor in our perception of reality," she muses. Presenting a four-part series of oil paintings, Mahieux-Bartoli explores one woman in four different poses, each angle representing the embodiment of the four seasons, creating an annual cycle. "In this way I explore the understanding of the four seasons as four finite segments of an infinite cycle," she explains. The pose of the woman is frozen, statuesque, yet indicating imminent movement – for Mahieux-Bartoli, this mirrors the way in which each season exists for only a limited amount of time, destined to end, just as it is to return. "The nature of the seasons is to mutate one into the next, like stills in a rolling film, set to repeat ad infinitum, momentarily static and yet part of a greater sequence."

Mathew Tom, on the other hand, presents charcoal and gauche on paper works, *Guru II*, exploring his interest in the juxtaposition between spirituality and materialism. "After a period of time living in India, I questioned my desire and need to believe in something," he explains. "However, I could not find what I was looking for, but instead realised that the search was what I was really after." Finding inspiration in the Portuguese word *Saudade*, the vague and constant desire for something that does not, and probably cannot, exist, Tom created his *Guru*. "He represents questions of power, wealth, religious, the real and the imaginary and the cloudiness between them," he explains.

The works of these three artists create an intriguing interplay in the explorations and investigations of the four seasons – what they share is the portrayal, not of what is evident, but what is not evident – a table of food that has been eaten, ravished, finished, and the evidence of people who are not there, transient like the seasons themselves, ever changing, ever in flux, desiring what is at once attainable and unattainable, forever at the crux of what TS Eliot called 'the still point of the turning world – neither from nor towards, neither flesh nor fleshless'. For there, he would have told us, at the still point, 'there the dance is'.

artecogallery.com/ (<http://artecogallery.com/index.html>)

About Emer O'Brien

Emer O'Brien was born in Dublin and raised in Toronto. Since 1998 she has lived and worked from her studio in central London. An installation artist with a background in photography, she is best known for large-scale installations that chart the intersection of technology and science with the natural and supernatural. While photographic work charts the passing of time through absence, memory and loss. O'Brien studied at The London Institute: LCF 1999–02, Goldsmiths College 2002–03 and The London Consortium 2006–08. Between 2008 and 2011 she was Turner Prize Nominee Catherine Yass's first assistant. Since then her work has been included in numerous solo and group exhibitions at key London institutions including *The Wapping Project* 2012, 2010, 2009, The Royal Academy 2008 and The Whitechapel Gallery 2004, National European institutions including Kunsthall KaDe, Amersfoort, Netherlands, 2009, Narondi Galerie V Praze, 2005 and The Dutch Textile Museum, 2003 and most recently at Art Platform LA 2012 as part of the Co/Lab presentations. O'Brien is currently represented by Christian Ferreira @ The Wapping Project. For more information visit www.emerobrien.com (<http://www.emerobrien.com>)

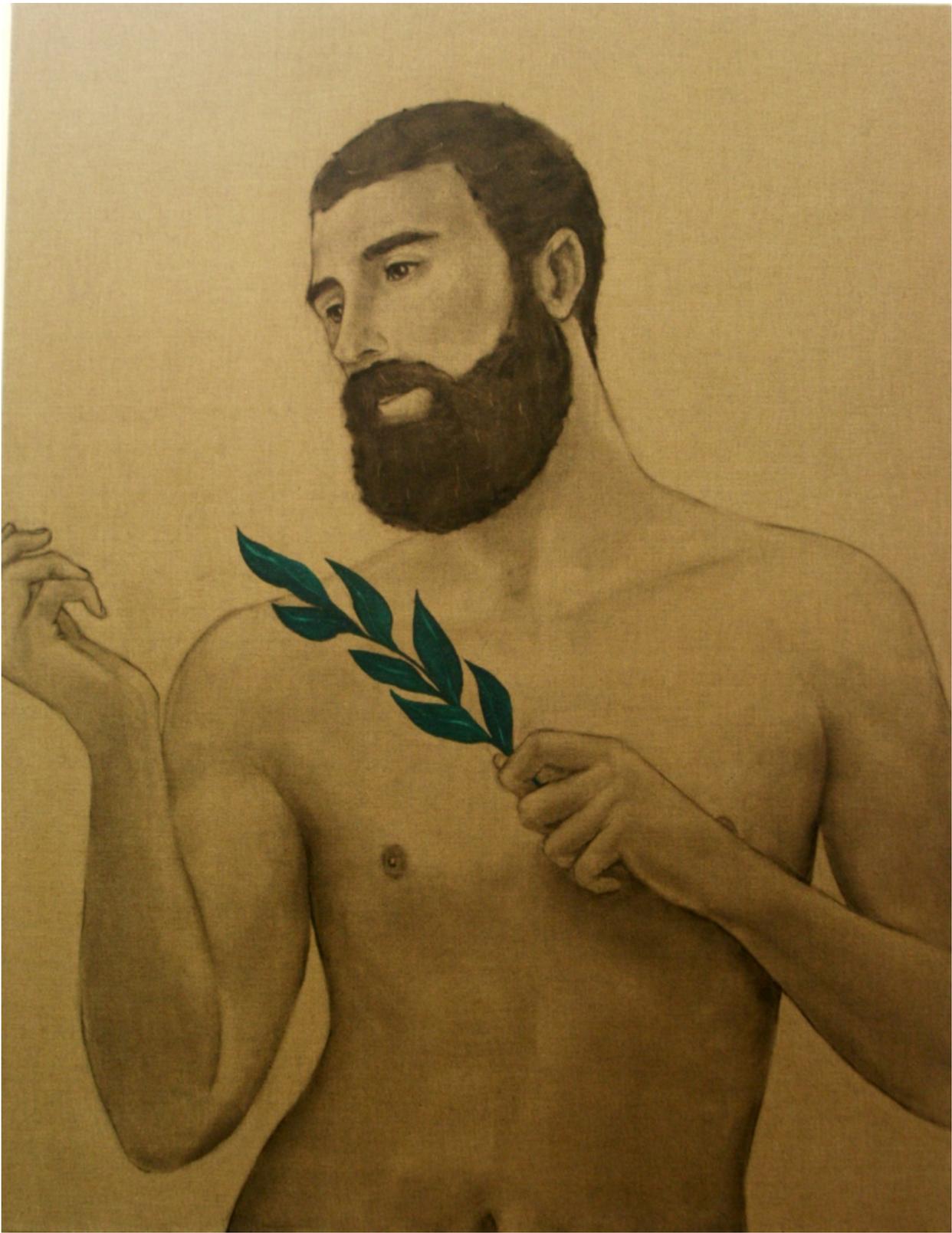
About Juliette Mahieux-Bartoli

Juliette Mahieux-Bartoli is a Franco-Italian artist born in the United States. She grew up between Washington DC, Paris, Geneva, and Rome. Mahieux-Bartoli completed a Drawing and Painting certificate at the Spinelli Art and Restoration Institute in Florence, and graduated with a BA in History of Art from the University of Cambridge. She attended classes at [the Prince's Drawing School](#)

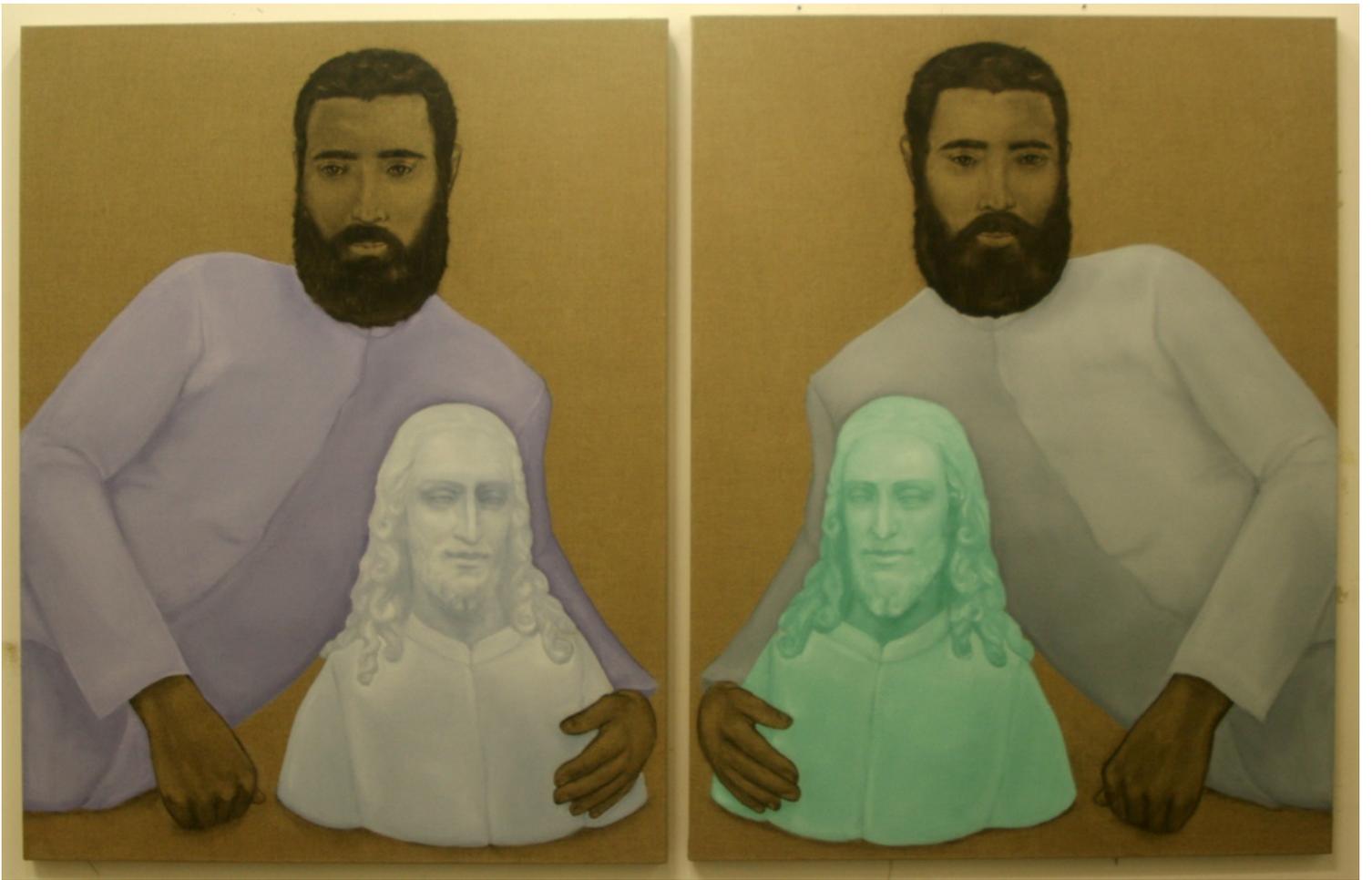
<http://fadmagazine.com/tag/the-prince%e2%80%99s-drawing-school/>), from where she went on to complete an MA in Fine Art at City & Guilds of London Art School. Mahieux-Bartoli currently lives and works between London and Rome. For more information visit www.juliettemahieuxbartoli.com (<http://www.juliettemahieuxbartoli.com>)

About Mathew Tom

Born in Florida, USA, Mathew Tom received his MFA Fine Art at Goldsmiths, University of London (2009–11), Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Painting at the School of the [Art Institute of Chicago](http://fadmagazine.com/tag/art-institute-of-chicago/) (<http://fadmagazine.com/tag/art-institute-of-chicago/>) (2007–08), and BFA Painting at the University of Central Florida (2002–07). He had a solo show and residency in the Netherlands titled, Perfect Future (2012). Selected Group shows include: Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy, London, UK (2012); Wunderkammer, Hoxton Art Gallery, London, UK (2012); Grammar of the Ornament, Hoxton Art Gallery, London, UK (2011); Gen Next III, Aakriti Art Gallery, Kolkata, India (2008); Lucky 13, Gene Siskel Film Center, Chicago, USA (2007); Paper Love, Dan Devening Projects, Chicago, USA (2007). He lives and works in London. For more information visit www.mathewtom.com (<http://www.mathewtom.com>)



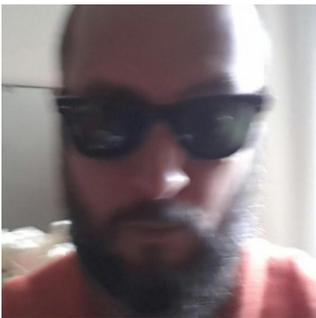
<http://fadmagazine.com/wp-content/uploads/20130114-143905.jpg>



<http://fadmagazine.com/wp-content/uploads/20130114-143912.jpg>



<http://fadmagazine.com/wp-content/uploads/20130114-143929.jpg>



About Mark Westall

Mark Westall is the founder and editor of FAD, a curation of the world's most interesting culture, and Creative Director of FAD Agency, a strategy & creative agency working with brands to solve business problems using cultural tools. In 2008 following his passion for art he founded what has grown to become FAD FAD is internationally recognized as a key figure within the emerging and contemporary art world, and has been selected as official partner by organizations as diverse as Moving Image, Volta and Christie's. In addition Mark is a columnist for City Magazine.

This entry was posted in [EVENTS \(http://fadmagazine.com/category/art-events/\)](http://fadmagazine.com/category/art-events/) and tagged [ArtEco \(http://fadmagazine.com/tag/arteco/\)](http://fadmagazine.com/tag/arteco/), [Emer O'Brien \(http://fadmagazine.com/tag/emer-obrien/\)](http://fadmagazine.com/tag/emer-obrien/), [Juliette Mahieux-Bartoli \(http://fadmagazine.com/tag/juliette-mahieux-bartoli/\)](http://fadmagazine.com/tag/juliette-mahieux-bartoli/), [Mathew Tom \(http://fadmagazine.com/tag/mathew-tom/\)](http://fadmagazine.com/tag/mathew-tom/). Bookmark the [permalink \(http://fadmagazine.com/2013/01/14/group-show-four-seasons-at-arteco-private-view-tuesday-15th-january-2013/\)](http://fadmagazine.com/2013/01/14/group-show-four-seasons-at-arteco-private-view-tuesday-15th-january-2013/).