

# REBECCA CAMACHO PRESENTS



Christy Matson | *West of West*  
Project room: Andy Mister | *My Apologies*

23 September through 28 October 2023  
OPENING RECEPTION Saturday 23 September, 5pm to 7pm

Rebecca Camacho Presents is pleased to announce an exhibition of new works by Los Angeles based artist Christy Matson. Marking her second presentation at the gallery, Matson debuts a new series of woven paintings that distill and explore abstraction, landscape and the relationship between reality and imagination.

Titled *West of West*, Matson's exhibition assembles works symbolizing both nature and spirit. Referencing the broad topography of the Pacific Coast, a region integral to the artists life, Matson considers the epic geography and eco-systems of the greater western seaboard through nostalgia, the contemporary lens of climate change, and social division, resulting in imagined mythical spaces created through combinations of color, texture, and composition. Beginning each piece as a memory drawing, a sketch inspired by places or spaces Matson has experienced in real time, the exhibition functions as a biographical map, a record of tangible moments absorbed at differing speeds, navigated by touch and feel.

Working on a hand-operated, computerized loom, the works in *West of West* also contend with the duality of integrating technology and the limitless cyber-oriented realm with Matson's profound sense of awe vis-à-vis the natural world. She weighs the implications of a digital footprint and biometric tracking against her commitment to sustainable materials and climate mitigation, wondering if there will come a time when unmapped space can only be experienced by engineered learning. Matson maintains that the same use of innovative methods and unconventional goods necessary to make her weavings is required to imagine a bright future for our planet.

Christy Matson was born in 1979 in Seattle WA. She studied at the University of Washington and at the California College of the Arts. Recent solo exhibitions include The Milwaukee Art Museum, Cranbrook Art Museum, which featured a special commission for the US Art in Embassies Program, and the Long Beach Museum of Art. Her work has been in dozens of group exhibitions including the Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Museum, the Craft and Folk Art Museum Los Angeles, the Asheville Art Museum, and The Knoxville Museum of Art. Matson's work is in the permanent collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Cranbrook Art Museum, The Milwaukee Art Museum, and the Smithsonian Museum of American Art's Renwick Gallery. In 2012 Matson was tenured and appointed as Associate Professor of Fiber and Material Studies at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Andy Mister is also invested in the boundaries between mechanical and manual production, and a new suite of pastel on linen still lifes are installed in the gallery's project room, and in concert with Matson's installation. Mister's latest works shift away from traditional photographic appropriation and move towards collaboration; integrating partnerships with outside artists to create source material that Mister then interprets – the content neither created by him nor found. Working with friend and photographer Pauline Shapiro, who formed and documented small flower bouquets culled from her garden in Brooklyn, Mister sets the arrangements against a seamless backdrop, keeping them unplaced in space and time, floating. Titled *My Apologies*, Mister's exhibition is a love letter to the humanity of intimate gestures that compensate for unintended errors in partnership.

Andy Mister was born in 1979 in New Orleans LA and lives and works in Binghamton, NY. Mister received a B.A. in English Literature and Philosophy from Loyola University New Orleans, and an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Montana. He has exhibited internationally at galleries and institutions including the Aldrich Museum; Lowell Ryan Projects, Los Angeles CA; Commune Gallery, Tokyo Japan; Hirschl & Adler Modern, New York NY; Turn Gallery, New York NY. Mister has been awarded residencies from the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council and the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts. His works have been reviewed and discussed in *Hyperallergic*, *artReal*, *Frontrunner Magazine*, *Quiet Lunch*, *Artnet*, *BOMB Magazine*, *Whitewall.art*, and *COOL HUNTING*, amongst others.

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Gallery hours: Thursday, Friday, Saturday 12noon to 5pm