

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Lisa Brice

Lisa Brice's work interrogates the male gaze by challenging and reinterpreting traditional depictions of the female nude from the perspective of a female artist.

Lisa Brice was born in 1968 in Cape Town, South Africa. She now lives and works between London, UK and Trinidad.

Brice contests the misogynistic nature of historical figuration typically painted by white men for white men and takes ownership over how women are portrayed. Working within the parameters of art history, she echoes iconic compositions by artists such as Degas, Manet and Picasso, but instead lends her muses agency and self-possession. Her interiors draw on the artist's personal experience from living and working between South Africa, London and Trinidad over the past 20 years.

Repudiating the gaze of the viewer, formal devices such as mirrors, smoke and metal grilles veil her subjects. Examining notions of liminality, Brice's paintings often play with the dimensions and format of doorways and emphasise the immediacy of our encounter with her muses as we address them face-to-face. The artist is interested in such threshold spaces where transitional states of being come into play; interior and exterior, public and private, artist and model. Her use of vermillion and cobalt blue in many of the works obscures the naturalistic skin tones of the body to further discourage an easy 'read' of the female form.

Brice's work features in major group shows this year at Whitechapel Gallery, London and at Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, Texas. In 2021 her work was exhibited at Hayward Gallery and at Tate Britain in London. A solo presentation by the artist opened at Charleston Trust, Lewes in May 2021. Brice had a major institutional show in November 2020 at KM21, The Hague. In 2018 Tate Britain, London hosted an exhibition of Brice's work as part of their Art Now series.

Other notable solo exhibitions include 'Last Chance Salon', LGDR, New York (2022); 'Lisa Brice', Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK (2019); 'Lisa Brice', Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK (2017); 'Boundary Girl', Salon 94, New York (2017) and 'Well Worn', Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa (2015). Notable group exhibitions include 'Artists I Steal From', Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, London, UK (2019); 'La Diabliesse', Tramps, London, UK (2016); 'Home Truths: Domestic Interior in South African Collections', South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa (2016) and 'Making & Unmaking', Camden Arts Centre, London, UK (2016).

Brice's works are featured in prominent collections including Tate and South African High Commission in London, UK; Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester, UK; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, California, USA; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, California, USA; Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Washington DC, USA; Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa; South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa; Michaelis Cabinet, University of Cape Town, South Africa and X Museum, Beijing, China.