

# Palomar projects

LAUREN COULLARD

*Fleuriste Val de Roses*

curated by Elena Cardin

Venue : 14 rue de Belleville, 75020 Paris

Octobre 13 - Novembre 30, 2019

Opening reception: Sunday, October 13, 16.00 to 19.00 p.m.

Visits by appointment

"I think there is a dragon among us today, growing in such proportions that it is becoming increasingly difficult to adopt a sustainable lifestyle. This dragon inhabits the rupture we created between the world and our imagination." (Tim Ingold, *Marcher avec les dragons*, 2013)

For its first edition, Palomar Projects is pleased to present a solo show of French artist Lauren Coullard at *Fleuriste Val de Roses*, a florist in Belleville.

Inspired by the nature and history of the site located in one of the most vibrant Asian neighborhoods of Paris, Lauren Coullard presents a new series of paintings in which we find one of her favorite figures immersed in lush and magical landscapes: the Dragon. An archetypal creature, the dragon has crossed the imaginations of different periods and latitudes, from ancient Greece and Rome, to Arabia, China and many other civilizations. Although Western culture has imagined the dragon as mainly evil and now relegates it to the infantile world of childhood, in Chinese cosmogony it has an essentially positive magical power. Dragons are associated with Yang, one of the two creative principles of the world, to which development, light, momentum and warmth correspond. Thus, in Lauren Coullard's paintings we have the impression that even if "we do not know the meaning of the dragon as that of the universe, there is something in its image that is in harmony with the imagination of men, it is, so to speak, a necessary monster," (J. L. Borges, *Book of Imaginary Beings*, 1957).

**Lauren Coullard** holds a Masters of Fine Art from Chelsea College of Art in London. She is currently exhibiting at the Lily Robert Gallery until October 30, 2019. She has recently exhibited at Galerie Georges-Philippe and Nathalie Vallois (Paris); Art Vilnius (LT); Kunstwerk Carlshütte (DE); Center For Recent Drawing, ICA and Gallery 46 in London; the Salon de Montrouge (Paris); the Zoo Galerie (Nantes); La Tôlerie (Clermont-Ferrand); La Générale (Paris); Silicone Malley (Lausanne); Art Brussels; and Peter Bergman Gallery in Stockholm. Lauren Coullard is co-founder of DOC! in Paris.

**Palomar Projects** is a curatorial project initiated by Elena Cardin. Offsite and nomadic, it consists of a series of solo presentations exploring the narrative potential of atypical and eccentric places located in and around Paris.

**Elena Cardin** (Italy, 1989) is a curator and writer based between Paris (FR) and Venice (IT). She previously worked as Hors-les-murs program curator at Parc Saint Léger - Contemporary art center and as artistic director assistant for the 57th Venice Biennale. She is a regular contributor of various art magazine including *Zéro/2*, *Artpress* and *Aware* magazine. She currently works as guest curator at Orange Rouge (session 2020 - 2021).

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