



Image: ALL & EVERYTHING, Arthur Kwon Lee

## ARTHUR KWON LEE

### SACRED & PRIMAL

June 5 - August 26

Orenda Art Works is pleased to virtually present *Sacred & Primal*, a selection of paintings by Korean American artist Arthur Kwon Lee. The virtual exhibition features fifteen of his paintings, including recent large-scale works comparable to murals. A tempest of archetypal imagery fills Lee's canvases, beckoning the viewer to meet him halfway in a conversation between subject and object.

Unifying psychoanalysis and Fauvism, Lee tends to work with large canvases and applies acrylic paint to achieve an array of color harmonies. His smaller works depict busts of significant historical figures and poses them in lush spaces that evince a tenuous balance between reverence and iconography. Such a tension imbues his religious and mythical representations. In "AGONY & ECSTASY (2019)", veiled, blind piety is paired with fierce, wide-eyed anima, placing sacred and primal energies in wordless dialogue.

Lee's mark-making and color application render solemn and classical subjects in a spectral dynamism that reinvigorates primordial motifs. Deities, heroes, legends, mythology, and the realm of the humane coexist in striking, compositional harmonies that seem to span time and consciousness.

Lee earned his B.F.A in Painting from George Washington University in 2014. He has exhibited at the Gallery of San Carpoforo in Milan; The Bullock Gallery; and the Corcoran Gallery of Art. He has had the honor of being the artist-in-residence for the McLean Project for the Arts and the Eileen Kaminsky Family Foundation. He has also worked with Mana Contemporary; DC Arts & Humanities; Prague Auction House; and ChaShaMa.

Orenda Art Works will host a **Midshow** for *Sacred & Primal* on **July 16th**. Join us for a conversation with Arthur Kwon Lee.

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