

Ebecho Muslimova: *FOG*

January 13–February 25, 2023

Opening Reception: Friday, January 13, 6–8 PM

Level One

Magenta Plains is pleased to present *FOG*, Ebecho Muslimova's third solo exhibition with the gallery. *FOG* consists of eight, large-scale paintings on Dibond aluminum panel and one drawing focusing on a new series of hyper-realistic environments in which Muslimova's idiosyncratic character, "Fatebe," engages in physically and psychologically risky behavior.

Building on the ever-expanding Fatebe universe, in *FOG* Muslimova utilizes the gallery space as a stage for a slickly deceptive narrative. Usually appearing amidst or within architectural features or contorted across wall murals, here Fatebe is contained within uniform square compositions, a simple structure which belies Muslimova's cunning manipulation of Fatebe across these paintings. Typical to her oeuvre, Muslimova moves Fatebe through a variety of different experiences of boundary-testing, demonstrating Fatebe's willingness to enter into compromising scenarios out of a sense of curiosity and duty.

However, *FOG* contains an element beyond the usual uncertainty of Fatebe's misadventures. Metallic cables surge through each painting, intercepted by the fourth wall of each panel. Each is aimed toward an unclear destination, suggesting a network of linkages between Muslimova's paintings. Each painting, and in turn each iteration of Fatebe, are perhaps part of one larger whole, obscured by the visual compartmentalization of the exhibition. As the viewer moves through the gallery space Fatebe's path through these images becomes unclear—each image a mirage.

Ebecho Muslimova (b. 1984, Makhachkala, Dagestan, RU) received her BFA at Cooper Union in New York, NY in 2010. Muslimova has presented solo exhibitions at The Drawing Center, New York, NY; David Zwirner Gallery, London, UK; Magenta Plains, New York, NY; Galerie Maria Bernheim, Zürich, CH; White Flag Projects, St. Louis, MO and Room East, New York, NY. Her work has been included in group exhibitions at Kunstmuseum Basel, CH; ICA Miami, FL; Renaissance Society, Chicago, IL; Zuzeum, Riga, LV; Hirshhorn Museum, Washington, D.C.; Swiss Institute, New York, NY; Kunsthalle St. Gallen, CH. Her large-scale murals have been commissioned for biennials such as *The Dreamers*, 58th Edition of October Salon, Belgrade, RS and *The 32nd Biennale of Graphic Arts: Birth As Criterion*, Ljubljana, SI. In 2022 Muslimova was the recipient of the Borlem Prize, honoring artists whose oeuvre brings awareness to mental health issues & struggles. Her work has been featured in publications such as *Forbes*, *The New York Times*, *Artforum*, *Art in America*, *Mousse*, *Artnet*, *Hyperallergic*, and *Cura Magazine*, among others. Muslimova is included in Jeffrey Deitch's book, *Unrealism*, featuring 27 artists and major essays by Johanna Fateman, Alison Gingeras, and Aria Dean. Her paintings and drawings are in the permanent collections at museums such as the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY; Hirshhorn Museum, Washington, D.C.; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA; ICA Miami, Miami, FL; Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX; RISD Museum, Providence, RI; MAMCO Geneva, Geneva, CH; and Zuzeum, Riga, LV. The artist currently lives and works in New York, NY.