



Palo Gallery Presents Exhibition of New Works by Henry Hudson in  
*Sanctuary Room: Cave of the Mind*  
June 7 – August 24, 2024



Henry Hudson, *Sanctuary Room: Cave of the Mind*. Images courtesy of Palo Gallery and the artist.

Palo Gallery is pleased to present *Sanctuary Room: Cave of the Mind*, an exhibition of new works by British artist **Henry Hudson**. Hudson crafts a nuanced dialogue between ancient wisdom and modernity, interweaving elements of mythology, spirituality, and technological innovation into plaster scagliola pieces and a series of enigmatic oil paintings. The exhibition delves into how cultures throughout history have coped with existential challenges using spirituality and folklore. In *Sanctuary Room: Cave of the Mind*, Hudson examines how these historical mechanisms continue to shape the modern world.

Inspired by Carl Jung's research of the unconscious psyche, the artist investigates the significance of natural phenomena in different mythologies. The way ancient societies, confronted by the enigmatic forces of nature, developed elaborate belief systems and rituals to navigate life's uncertainties provide a unique subject matter for Hudson. From the cave paintings of prehistoric shamans to the intricate artifacts of ancient civilizations, Hudson identifies a common thread of humanity's quest to comprehend and influence the complexities of existence. Yet in this exploration, Hudson observes a shifting undertone in our contemporary landscape – a gradual detachment from the natural world alongside the pervasive influence of technological advancements affecting modern life.

In *Sanctuary Room: Cave of the Mind* Hudson presents two distinct bodies of work: tranquil plaster scagliola pieces that evoke the essence of water, and a series of oil paintings made using artificial intelligence. Hudson's creation of the oil paintings utilizes AI alongside other technological tools such as Photoshop, collaging, and sketching. In this execution, Hudson carries out the rapid conceptualization of live models via AI and other technological tools prior to executing his final work on canvas. Through his contrasting mediums of plaster scagliola and oil paintings, Hudson prompts viewers to contemplate themes of creation, destruction, and transformation while confronting the rapidly changing landscape of modernity. In Hudson's vision, the exhibition becomes a sanctuary – a space for reflection and introspection where the boundaries between past and present, reality and imagination, merge. Each artwork serves as a portal, inviting viewers to embrace the limitless potential of the human mind.

*Sanctuary Room: Cave of the Mind* stands as a testament to the enduring power of art to illuminate the hidden recesses of society's collective psyche, bridging the gap between the known and the unknown in a celebration of the human spirit – a stab at hope in an uncertain world.

### **About the Artist**

Henry Hudson is a British artist who makes paintings, sculpture, etchings and performance based work. He graduated from Central St. Martins and lives and works in London. Hudson is best recognised for his use of plasticine, creating paintings that have a depth and sculptural quality. He softens the plasticine over a hotplate so that it can be manipulated with his fingers. It is then mixed, impastoed thickly on board in several layers of colour, finally sculpted and texturised with biro, paint brushes and other make-shift tools. In recent years Hudson has used plasticine for his Horizon Lines, which are unpopulated and serene in comparison to his jungles. Inspired by the artist's solo flights over the Atlantic Ocean, these paintings reflect a similar sense of escapism. His latest series, fusing digital image-making with Scagliola - a historical Italian technique that combines pigment, plaster and glue, holds similar characteristics to plasticine, which is pigment mixed with calcium salts, petroleum jelly and aliphatic acids. These marbled, stone-like, Scagliola artworks depict the geological layers of the riverbed, considering the ebb and flow of rocks and sediment as they are pulled along by the current. Using the Scagliola process to produce a marbling effect, the artist is able to suggest the flowing waters of the river and their reflections. These brooding currents do not only refer to the river itself but to the variations of internal landscapes.

Henry Hudson (b. 1982, Bath UK) lives and works in London. He has had solo exhibitions at such galleries as Unit Gallery, London; Palo Gallery, New York; Sotheby's S|2 Gallery, New York; Sotheby's S|2 Gallery, London; Sir John Soane's Museum, London; Carl Kostyál Gallery, London; Galerie Isa, Mumbai; Galerie Kandhofer, Vienna; 20 Hoxton Square Projects, London; TJ Boulting, London; The Fine Art Society, Hong Kong; and F2 Gallery, Beijing. Hudson's work has been reviewed by such periodicals as LOVE Magazine, The New York Times, The Telegraph Magazine, and The Wall Street Journal and written about by artists and critics including Richard Dorment, Marc Quinn, Cressida Connolly and Nick Foulkes. His work is included in public and private collections including the Zabludowicz Collection, London; The Hiscox Collection, London; Ömer Koç Collection, Istanbul; Marc Quinn Collection, London; Alexander Dellal Collection, London; David Ross Collection, London; and the Collection of Lord and Lady Roussev, London.

### **About Palo Gallery**

Established in 2018 in New York City by third-generation art collector and dealer Paul Henkel, Palo Gallery brings to bear a tradition of art scholarship and patronage, working as a true thought partner with artists to realize their visions and create dynamic presentations. Extensive research by the Palo curatorial team ensures that each exhibition is advised by the art historical canon and contemporary cultural touchpoints. In 2022, Palo Gallery opened its new 3,400-square-foot flagship space designed by Selldorf Architects in the NoHo district of Manhattan as the only dedicated partner showcasing Vica by Annabelle Selldorf. A destination of discovery, Palo Gallery's multifaceted program ranges from tightly curated, thematic group exhibitions to insightful art historically informed solo exhibitions spanning a breadth of artistic endeavors.

Since its inception, Palo Gallery has sought to incorporate thematic elements into its curatorial practice – whether it be group shows or solo presentations. Early exhibitions marked the gallery's foray into concept-driven presentations focusing on themes of memory and our most primitive instincts. *Memories Manifest* (2021) saw seven artists working in response to each other and the theme of memory, while *Primordial* (2021) investigated the ways that thoughts, emotions, reactions, and experiences speak to our most primitive instincts. The large-scale *Real Wild* (2022) presented an array of representations and interpretations of iconography from the American Wild West, a setting in which many of us have a collective archetype that the exhibition sought to re-contextualize. Building on the success of these conceptual group exhibitions, Palo has continued navigating contemporary cultural topics via art historical narratives with a number of solo exhibitions. Today, the gallery continues to showcase thematic presentations that offer Palo Gallery and its artists a unique opportunity to explore pivotal cultural and historical topics at a level that transcends those achieved via a standard solo exhibition. Palo Gallery is located at 30 Bond St., New York, NY.

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