

ELBOW FIST TO MAKE
MARLEY FREEMAN
January 15–February 25, 2023

Parker Gallery is proud to present its third solo exhibition with Marley Freeman. The exhibition highlights the expressive possibility of paint across varying scales – from abstractions smaller than a letter-sized sheet of paper, to larger scale canvases encompassing our field of vision.

Freeman approaches every painting with a deep sensitivity to color, form and feeling. Some works in the exhibition are comprised of single sweeping gestures, repeated exactly enough times to create deceptively complex patterns. In *don't die Wendell Berry*, horizontal bands of distinct color butt up against one another, enhancing the effect of each unique pigment, from aqua hued blues to clay red, fuchsia, lavender and pale yellow. In *delivered with pride*, vertical strokes of varying opacity are organized from left to right in a tight palette of earthy brown hues, overlaying looser fields of electric orange, and mossy green pools of paint underneath.

Freeman expertly balances contrasting colors, sometimes working on a single painting for several months until it feels just right. Her index of gestures is ever-expanding, delivered with the same intuition that guides her hand-mixed pigments. The feeling of movement—playful, sweeping, harmonious, and unexpected in the way it is experienced—is consistent across all works. *moss not water* depicts two seated figures through matte applications of solid color that is used clearly and with effect, distinguishing figure from background with measured refrain. In *tribute a claw*, a multitude of layered strokes deployed with virtuosic variation create an all-over patchwork composition with many areas of focus that serves to both draw the eye in and focus it on the painting's surface.

Several works in the exhibition feature ceramic frames by New York-based artist Jared Buckhiester, further adding to and enhancing the life of each painting. This artistic collaboration follows Freeman's ongoing collaborative projects with friends and family. In connection with the exhibition and concurrent with Frieze Los Angeles, a conversation with Freeman, Buckhiester, and Harry Dodge will take place at the gallery on Wednesday, February 15th.

Marley Freeman (b. 1981 in Boston, MA, lives and works in Massachusetts and New York). Recent solo exhibitions include those held at Karma, New York, NY (2022), Travesía Cuatro, Guadalajara, Mexico (2021), and Parker Gallery, Los Angeles, CA (2020). Select group exhibitions include *New Abstracts: Recent Acquisitions*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA (2022), *Ceramics Club: CC22, White Columns*, New York, NY (2022), *A Window is Also a Wall*, Dunes, Portland, ME (2022) and *Impressions of the Fall*, 47 Canal, New York, NY (2022). Her work is included in the collections of Fundación AMMA, Mexico City; Fundación Medianoche0, Granada, Spain; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA; RISD Museum, Providence, RI; San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio, TX; and the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY.