

CHRISTINA FORRER & REBECCA MORRIS

February 17–April 9, 2022

Parker Gallery is proud to present a two-person exhibition with Los Angeles-based artists Christina Forrer and Rebecca Morris. The exhibition features new works by Forrer together with paintings by Morris executed over the last three years. Friends and mutual fans, this exhibition marks the first time the artists have exhibited alongside each other, bringing together two idiosyncratic practices.

In Forrer's new tapestries, myriad scenes can be found throughout dense compositions of topsy-turvy topography navigated by characters in action. Heroic feats, along with moments of joy and suffering, establish the artist's mythical worlds. Characters transform from one being to another, across metaphysical boundaries. Woven from the bottom up, Forrer's narrative tapestries unfold from one horizontal register to the next, creating layers of legible space that emphasize the immediacy of the image.

Morris's inventive abstract paintings, by contrast, build space with the intent to slow the eye. Employing many different gestures within a single work, the artist approaches the canvas as a problem to be solved, applying paint in an additive process guided by openness and experimentation. Patchwork fields of vibrant and nuanced color map out alternately dense and loose fields that characterize the structure of her paintings. Colliding contrasting forms, Morris's rich vocabulary of shape and line establishes constant motion and perpetual rhythm.

Each artist approaches their work from an incomplete vantage point, located somewhere within the composition, rarely in view of the total picture. For Forrer, weaving on the loom means that a work is always in sequential progress, never fully revealing itself until it is taken off the loom. And Morris often paints her canvases on the floor, lying atop an elevated bridge, inched from the canvas, focusing on specific areas before being able to zoom out to reveal the total picture. The limitations of sight are intrinsic to their processes, treated less as a disadvantage than as an opportunity for risk-taking, tackled inch-by-inch, one section at a time.

Christina Forrer (b. 1978 in Zürich, Switzerland, lives and works in Los Angeles, CA). Recent solo institutional exhibitions include those held at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, CT (2021), Savannah College of Art and Design Museum of Art, Savannah, GA (2019), and Swiss Institute of Contemporary Art (2017). Recent group exhibitions include *Bianca Beck, Tamara Gonzales, Christina Forrer*, Beeler Gallery, Columbus College of Art and Design, Columbus, OH, *Feedback*, The School, Jack Shainman Gallery, Kinderhook, NY, *Plus One*, Luhring Augustine, New York, NY, *THIS IS*

AMERICA, Kunstraum Potsdam, Potsdam, Germany (all 2021), and *Made in L.A. 2020: A Version*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA, The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens, San Marino, CA (2020). Her works are included in the collections of the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA and NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, Fort Lauderdale, FL.

Rebecca Morris (b. 1969 in Honolulu, HI, lives and works in Los Angeles, CA). The artist's work will be the subject of a forthcoming retrospective at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles opening in October 2022. The exhibition is curated by Jamillah James of the MCA Chicago and will include a catalog. Recent solo institutional exhibitions include those held at the Blaffer Art Museum (2019), Bonnefanten Museum, Maastricht, The Netherlands (2014), and Kunsthalle Lingen, Lingen, Germany (2013). Recent group exhibitions include *New Visions: After De Keyser*, David Zwirner (online), *West by Midwest*, the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, *Inherent Structures*, Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, OH, and *Generations: Künstlerinnen im Dialog*, Sammlung Goetz, Munich, Germany. Her paintings are in many public collections which include The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; The Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; The University of Chicago Booth School of Business; and The Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego. Her work has been exhibited in both The Whitney Biennial in New York and The Hammer Museum's Made In L.A. Biennial in Los Angeles.