

# **TATZPIT**

## **DUSTIN METZ AND RONI SHNEIOR**

### **September 16 – November 3, 2018**

Parker Gallery is pleased to present a two-person exhibition of new works by Los Angeles-based artists Dustin Metz and Roni Shneior. *Tatzpit* will be on view September 16th through November 3rd, 2018.

The word *tatzpit*, derived from the root of “to watch” in Hebrew, describes a lookout or viewpoint. But the word also refers to surveillance and forecasting; the collection of data to predict an outcome. In two new bodies of work, Dustin Metz and Roni Shneior imagine an impending posthuman world.

Two works by Metz depict large rectangular paintings with their backs turned towards us. A totemic mass in shades of black dominates the composition, while the edges offer the slightest clue as to what lies beyond. Each painting is paired with a sculptural work, or *Sight*, that assumes the point of view of the backward canvas, offering a collapsed view of the landscape on the horizon. The anthropomorphic *Belief Me* paintings (2017-18) capture the subjects becoming sentient beings, when language is garbled and consciousness still infantile.

Roni Shneior engages classical portrait and landscape traditions to surreal effect. Her subjects emerge as if from an untold science fiction fantasy. *Family in the Park* (2018), illustrates an almost-familiar nuclear family, set against an alien wasteland of scorched earth perhaps not so far in our future. Their ovoid features appear again on hollow ceramic heads: blank round eye sockets with open mouths. In *Swallow I* and *Swallow II* (both 2018), a deafening scream is silenced by a jar of pickled vegetables.

Metz and Shneior share a sort of magical thinking that suspends disbelief. From this *tatzpit*, Metz and Shneior envision an otherworldly future.

**Dustin Metz (b. 1984 Philadelphia, PA, lives and works in Los Angeles, CA). Select exhibitions include *American Fine Arts: Part 1*, BBQLA, Los Angeles, CA (2017), *Frame Work*, Ortega Y Gasset Projects, Brooklyn, NY (2017), *ANGSTZEITEN*, Elevator Mondays, Los Angeles, CA (2017), *Night Spots and Dirty Sun Clock*, Chicken Coop Contemporary, Portland, OR (2016) and *Igcognito*, Santa Monica Museum of Art, Santa Monica, CA (2014).**

**Roni Shneior (b. 1980 Cabri, Israel, lives and works in Los Angeles, CA). Select solo and two-person exhibitions include *A Place in the Sun*, JOAN, Los Angeles, CA (2017), *Abyss*, The Finley, Los Angeles, CA (2016) and *Please Please Please, Let me get What I want*, with Orr Herz, Chin’s Push, Los Angeles, CA (2016). Select group exhibitions include *Enfant Savant Salade Sauvage*, Arturo Bandini, Los Angeles, CA (2018) and *All Hands on Deck*, Ben Maltz Gallery, Otis College of Art & Design, Los Angeles, CA (2018).**