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**PRESS RELEASE**



Fay Jones "Recent Work"  
February 17 to March 30, 2024  
Gallery Hours: Wed to Sat 11:30-5:30PM and by  
appointment  
Reception: February 17, 4-6PM

Left:  
Fay Jones  
"Stage Set" 2023  
acrylic and collage on paper, diptych  
Each Sheet: 38 1/2" x 41 3/4"  
Additional images available by request

Painting on paper has been the core of the Fay Jones practice for over fifty years. This exhibition marks Fay Jones first solo show in Dallas. For the artist, art is a means of self-revelation and self-investigation made clear by the autobiographical nature of her paintings. She uses images of animals, family, friends and passages in art and literature to explore the complexities of human nature.

The seven works in this exhibition, demonstrates her commitment to narrative and storytelling. Four of the paintings in the show are large-scale diptychs, a format that the artist has been using for years to split the action, create a pause or add tension in the composition. In these works, Jones amplifies the narrative moments using curtains, tents or billowing fabric. In "Stage Set," a bold red curtain frames each panel of the diptych separating the narrative into two acts. Two couples dominate the action in each section. The central female figure in the left section holds a kerchief to her face while her other arm holds back the curtain, over her left shoulder looms a man in a light blue shirt while multiple figures mill about in the background. The right section depicts another man in a white shirt pushing back the curtain with hand, a woman stands behind him with her arms crossed. The hand of the woman on the left and the hand of man on the right meet in the center of the composition and appear to be holding back the same curtain. The viewer is left to decipher if each couple is part of an overarching narrative or two different chapters.

The three single paintings in the show also illustrates Jones' interest in coupling. Two of these smaller works depict a man and a woman while the other, two monkeys. Disembodied heads birds and animals populate these works adding allegory to the story. In the painting "Insomnia" two monkeys walk across of plank. Trees punctuate the landscape while an artist's palette with animals and insects floats like the moon in the sky. A pair of spectacles painted at the top of the palette implies a ghostly figure looking down on the world. "Insomnia," the last work finished for the show acts as a coda. The pair of monkeys set in an Edenic landscape becomes a foil to the tense human interaction in the other works.

Fay Jones' work explores our collective and individual responses to representation and memory, and creates a psychological dance that is playful and thought provoking. Her signature style creates a tension between the immediacy of the simplicity of Jones' figures and inscrutability of what she is depicting. Her paintings are intimate narratives and expressions of her relationship to the world. A world that is magical as well as troubling.