

Lilac GALLERY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

BEHIND FAÇADES

JM Robert

August 24 to September 17, 2017



JM Robert, "*Passionnément*" *Passionately*, 2017 – acrylic and mixed media on canvas, 78 x 58 in

New York — Lilac Gallery New York is pleased to present "Behind Façades" an exhibition of works by JM Robert, of original hand-painted urban art, barraging unique graffiti compositions juxtaposing worldly effeminate figures from August 24 to September 17, 2017.

Born and raised in a small country town in the French region of Burgundy, 29 years-old JM Robert started painting at a very young age before getting an Art and decoration degree at the Beaux-Arts School in Paris. Today he strives to create paintings that draw from his experiences from a young age, expanding into impressive and powerful canvases. What is the passage of time? What is left of our presence in a place? What trace do we leave of our passage on earth? These are the questions that artist JM Robert raises in his works.

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Ruins and damaged walls of big cities full of rough-cast, bits of tags and old posters fascinate him and became the source of his inspiration. His abstract backgrounds of bright and flashy colors contrast with the black graphic by which he captures characteristic expressions of female faces. His work is characterized by a pictorial act in two phases. He first uses different techniques such as graffiti, scratching and scraping with knives and trowels to mimic the effects of patina, dirt, and degradation. Following the fluidity of this first layer, a face begins to appear in the eyes of the artist before he begins to paint his muse. He then hand-draws this face in black to simulate stencil work.

Scarcely evoked, the facial features are already vanishing. It seems that the faces were sketched, but did not have time to be completely formed. It is also a trace of an anonymous passage, a presence that is fragile, precarious, and always feminine.

There are sad, joyful, sometimes distant looks. But these faces are always in the hope of something, a trace of life in a chaotic setting as in Pompeii or Hiroshima, Robert wants to represent the shadow of these figures. He picks up these feminine faces from everyday life, in his opinion, they bear witness of our time.

On his canvases, colors burst into a myriad of fragments that no longer manage to find their meaning to take shape. The use of vivid colors often help to classify his work in the category of pop art but he crosses the boundaries of style to create pieces which exude a timeless emotion, bridging classical and contemporary, creating a completely unique style of his own.

He exhibits in France, Hong-Kong and has done many live performances in street art festivals and collage around the world. Lilac Gallery is proud to be presenting his first solo exhibition in America.

Lilac Gallery is located at 144 5th Avenue, Suite 3L, between 19th and 20th street. For further information, please contact the gallery at info@lilacgallerynyc.com or at +1 212-255-2925. Gallery Hours: Monday - Friday 11am - 7pm by appointment | Weekends by appointment only www.lilacgallerynyc.com

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Lilac Gallery was established in 1972 as "LILAC Fine Art" and opened in Manhattan in 2012.