

# Sotheby's INSTITUTE OF ART

## ***Trust the Process***

**Curated by Emily Cheng**

**Opening Reception: Wednesday, May 9, 6-8 PM**

**Sotheby's Institute of Art** is pleased to present *Trust the Process*, a two person exhibition curated by Emily Cheng, Masters of Contemporary Art candidate 2018. The exhibit is on view from May 9 to May 14th, and is located at the Institute's campus located on the 6th floor of 570 Lexington Ave. The exhibition is free and open to the public and requires preliminary registration. Please bring photo identification to gain entry to the building and RSVP by emailing [exhibitionrsvp@sia.edu](mailto:exhibitionrsvp@sia.edu).

*Trust the Process* explores the creative processes of two artists, Carlos RM and Adam Peiffer. RM (b. 1986) is a New York based abstract painter originally from Bogota, Colombia; and Peiffer (b. 1985), who is also currently based in NYC, is a figurative painter originally from Connecticut.

Both artists have diametrically opposing styles and hold very different artistic approaches to the act of painting. This exhibition aims to shine a spotlight not only on their individual pieces but also on the variety of techniques between their creative processes. Through the uses of photography and study materials, which include paint samples, patterns sheets and transfer mediums, the exhibition explores the artists' journeys from an abstract concept to a physical work of art.

In addition to the 14 works on display by the two artists, on view are also photographs, taken by Eric Chen, of Peiffer's and RM's studios. These behind-the-scenes shots invite the viewers directly to the artists' workspaces, their creative spaces, to get a glimpse at the their diverse and non-linear approaches to painting.

Also on view are the artists' personal notes and preliminary sketches hung adjacent to the finished artworks. A question rises here if these studies may be considered works of art in themselves. Both artists have professional art handling experience at the Sotheby's auction house, and through their works, one can trace the details from their profession. Peiffer applies traditional techniques and is inspired by canonic art books for the portraits he paints. The studio photographs show not only his process but also how art books like auction catalogues inspire him. RM on the other hand, uses print outs, work documents and newspaper articles about auctions as references and materials for his creation. When looking at his paintings, it is mysterious how he applied paints to create inkblots. More insight is given through the photographs and works on paper, which help illustrate his painting process.

The curator hopes that through witnessing the processes of two very different artists, viewers will come away with a stronger appreciation for their pieces and even feel encouraged to experiment with these techniques themselves and create art.

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**Carlos RM** is an abstract painter, living in New York City for the past 5 years. His primary medium is acrylic on canvas. His most recent works explore the lines between minimal, abstract expressionist and figurative art. A good example is the painting *Metamorphosis on the Hill*, 2018. His technique is the result of a long career in the art of faux painting and trompe l'oeil, which he practiced commercially for close to 15 years. RM's utmost goal with each work is to engage the viewer in a colorful and intriguing adventure.

Follow Carlos RM on Instagram @carlospainter  
Website: [www.carlosrm.nyc](http://www.carlosrm.nyc)



Carlos RM *Head in Motion*, 2018. Acrylic on canvas, 40 in x 30 in.

**Adam Peiffer** was born in 1985 in New London, Connecticut. He graduated from the Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts in 2007 with a BFA in painting. Peiffer then moved to New York City to paint in the Chelsea studio of the renowned contemporary artist Jeff Koons where he assisted in the production of the Hulk Elvis series. Next, he painted in watercolor in the Dumbo studio of Ken Solomon. Breaking away from working for other artists, he worked for over two years as an art handler at Sotheby's auction house. He now paints and sells his paintings independently from his Crown Heights studio in Brooklyn.

Follow Adam Peiffer on Instagram @aspeiffer  
Website: [www.adampeiffer.com](http://www.adampeiffer.com)



Adam Peiffer, *Woman with Sunglasses*, 2017. Oil on canvas, 24 in x 18 in.

For images and information please contact Emily Cheng at [emily.cheng@sia.edu](mailto:emily.cheng@sia.edu).