

# FLAUNT

## VANESSA PRAGER | 'PORTRAITS' AT DIANE ROSENSTEIN GALLERY

AN EXHIBITION OF MYTHIC PORTRAITS

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March, 2023

**Diane Rosenstein Gallery** in Los Angeles presents *Portraits*, an exhibition of paintings by Vanessa Prager, a self-taught artist born known for her impasto painting technique. Prager was born and raised in LA, yet her work knows no geographical bounds. Her paintings traverse ideas of self-reflection, identity, and the human condition within the 21st century, having been featured in New York, Paris, San Francisco, Berlin, and London.



Photos by Ernest Gibson and Cara Robbins

*Portraits* is Prager's second solo exhibition with the gallery and consists of fifteen paintings that illustrate the inevitability of change and metamorphosis. The artist shifts between still life and classicism to portray bust-length portraits of half-human, half floral beings. Viewers are directed to the faces of these beings where great bouquets replace the heads of faceless subjects, nodding to Arcimboldo's Proto-Surrealist naturalist expressions and utilizing flowers as a metaphor for the transformative nature of life. For Prager, these works are a gesture of optimism, an encouragement for the people in our world to connect and reconnect with themselves and others.

*Portraits* is available for viewing at 831 N Highland Ave from Feb. 14 to April 1.

### **Summer vacation or winter holidays?**

Summer vacation. I'll take all the hot sun and water.

### **Roses or daisies?**

Roses. But garden roses.

### **Morning ritual or nighttime wind down? Nighttime wind down.**

Although, coffee.

### **Abstraction or realism?**

Abstracted realism?

### **Los Angeles or New York?**

Los Angeles. Not only for the weather.

### **Nostalgia or futurism?**

Futurism. I never want to get stuck in the past and the future is wide open.

### **Drama or comedy?**

Comedy. A good laugh can hit the spot.

### **Pastels or neutrals?**

Pastels. Let the sun bleach the colors.

### **Sunshine or moonlight?**

Sunshine. I like it saturated.

### **Solo or group exhibitions?**

Solo. I prefer a broad scope of an artist's work.



"The Fountain" painted by Vanessa Prager, photo by Ernest Gibson