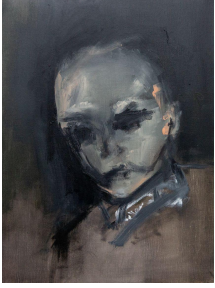


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**For Immediate Release:**  
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# Diane Kotila

## *The Council*

March 4 - April 15, 2023

(Los Angeles, CA) **de boer** is pleased to present *The Council*, **Diane Kotila's** second exhibition with the gallery. Featuring paintings and ceramics that erode portraiture to its bare essentials, conceptually tearing into literature's adversarial male antagonists.

"The Council" is a series of portraits that illustrate the artist's examination of a patriarchal society. They are somber, and even haunting paintings with bruised faces that are coupled together by aggressive bold mark making. Each of the painting's titles refers to a literary quote that references the behavior of an antagonistic male subject.

Cole Sweetwood described Kotila's paintings as "dark and uneasy as the rudimentary set of marks it is treated with, a gaze that evokes the full range of human emotion. No absolutes exist in this realm of interpretation, isolating figures whose sexual ambiguity is slippery and deceptive. The coarseness of Kotila's brushwork creates an absence of the idealization . . . the end result is a richly varied handling of paint, deeply layered and often intentionally haphazard, which suggests form and space in both an illusory and highly individual manner."

Matthew Higgs has described Kotila's paintings "as distinct as Philip Guston, Leon Golub, Bruce Nauman, and Joyce Pensato, among others, Kotila's work ultimately seeks to both illuminate and interrogate the violence - emotional, psychological, and societal - that continues to shape and condition *La Comédie humaine*." Rupture and fragmentation prevail in these visceral works that are characterized by oppositional formal devices, with a sharp emotion that actively explores uncomfortable truths.

**Diane Kotila** (b. 1965) Studied Fine Art at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo graduating in 1986. She lives in Seattle and has exhibited at Sotheby's S2 in London and White Columns, New York, NY. Her work has also been presented at de boer, Los Angeles; Miart, Milan by Anthony Reynolds Gallery (2018); S|2 London gallery, Sotheby's, London (2019); and by Kenny Schachter at the Felix Art Fair, Los Angeles (2020).

de boer (Los Angeles) is located at 3311 E. Pico Boulevard in Los Angeles.

For further information and images please visit [deboergallery.com](http://deboergallery.com) or email the gallery at [info@deboergallery.com](mailto:info@deboergallery.com).

Image:  
Diane Kotila, *Untitled*, 2021, Oil on linen, 16 x 12 in. (40.64 x 30.48 cm)