

## GAZELLI ART HOUSE



Derek Boshier, *Untitled (From the 54 drawings series)*, 1973 and Jane McAdam Freud, *Brush*, 2016. © Gazelli Art House

### *I See Faces*

Andy Warhol, Banksy, Derek Boshier, Jane McAdam Freud, Keith Haring, Shan Hur, KAWS, Kalliopi Lemos and Giovanni Ozzola.

Online Exhibition: 3rd February – 28th February, 2021

Who keeps us company while we are confined indoors and isolated? Pareidolia is the psychological phenomenon of assigning living characteristics to everyday objects. 'I See Faces' is an online exhibition of portraits that are not portraits featuring; Andy Warhol, Banksy, Derek Boshier, Jane McAdam Freud, Keith Haring, Shan Hur, KAWS, Kalliopi Lemos and Giovanni Ozzola.

Evolutionary psychologists suggest that ancient ancestors who experienced pareidolia were more likely to survive as a result of a higher personal alert for danger- perceiving things that weren't always there - preparing them for the times when the threat was real. Whilst babies who recognised faces in quotidian objects were more likely to be cared for and survive according to Carl Sagan who theorised that, "Those infants who a million years ago were unable to recognise a face smiled back less, were less likely to win the hearts of their parents, and less likely to prosper", which allowed pareidolia to be passed on to current generations.

Today we find ourselves in trying times, in need of both comfort and company. 'I See Faces' explores Pareidolia and its endless possibilities. The exhibition is a tonic for our brains presenting works that prompt us to solve problems and interpret patterns which have been proven to reduce uncertainty, anxiety and to help us make sense of our surrounding environments and situations. The spilt liquid in Andy Warhol's *New Coke Drawing* (1985), becomes a fizzing face brought to life the more one stares. While *Lost Time, Alone Again, Far Far Down* by KAWS is fragmented into multiple visages in an acrylic techno scene.

Embrace the faces, it's your survival instincts at work.

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## About the Gallery

Gazelli Art House is a commercial gallery with a wide range of international artists, presenting a broad and dynamic programme to a diverse audience through global public projects and exhibition spaces in London and Baku. Gazelli Art House was founded in 2003 in Baku, Azerbaijan where it held exhibitions with Azeri artists. Having hosted conceptually interlinked off-site exhibitions across London, founder and director of Gazelli Art House, Mila Askarova, opened a permanent space on Dover Street, London in March 2012. In 2017, the redesigned gallery space reopened in Baku, with an ambitious annual program showcasing both local and international artists. Representing artists Aziz+Cucher, Derek Boshier, Stanley Casselman, Francesco Jodice, Recycle Group, Kalliopi Lemos, Niyaz Najafov and Giovanni Ozzola amongst others, the gallery has built a consistent and diverse program with artists working in sculpture, photography, painting, video, performance and virtual reality.

For further press information, images and requests please contact: [press@gazelliarthouse.com](mailto:press@gazelliarthouse.com)