



Sittings/Sightings

by Beau Gabriel

Unit G Gallery

Exhibition Dates:

18 - 27 March 2020

Beau Gabriel is a fine artist working from Britannia Works in Fish Island and was the runner-up of the 2019 Hackney WickED Art Prize competition. He was born in New York City and grew up in its northern suburbs. He studied in Yale University for his undergraduate degree and took his MA in Illustration at the Royal College of Art. His art explores the evolving nature of figurative representation. A fascination with Renaissance and Baroque art pervades his work, merging with the modern world of online influence and self-styling.

The subjects of 'Sittings/Sightings' were drawn from three principal sources: Some are friends, painted from life; others spring from works by 15th and 16th century Italian masters; and still others hail from the upper echelons of Instagram influencers.

The work here revels in the confluence between the classical tradition and our modern, digital modes of portraying style and influence. The paintings blend the intimacy of personal portraits with a mannered theatricality. Both historically and contemporarily, this marks a depiction of great beauty and power. Through the pictorial language and techniques of the Renaissance, Gabriel approaches his subjects with both archness and reverence: A delight in depicting the human form shares the canvas with an awareness of the absurdity of projecting out likenesses into the world.

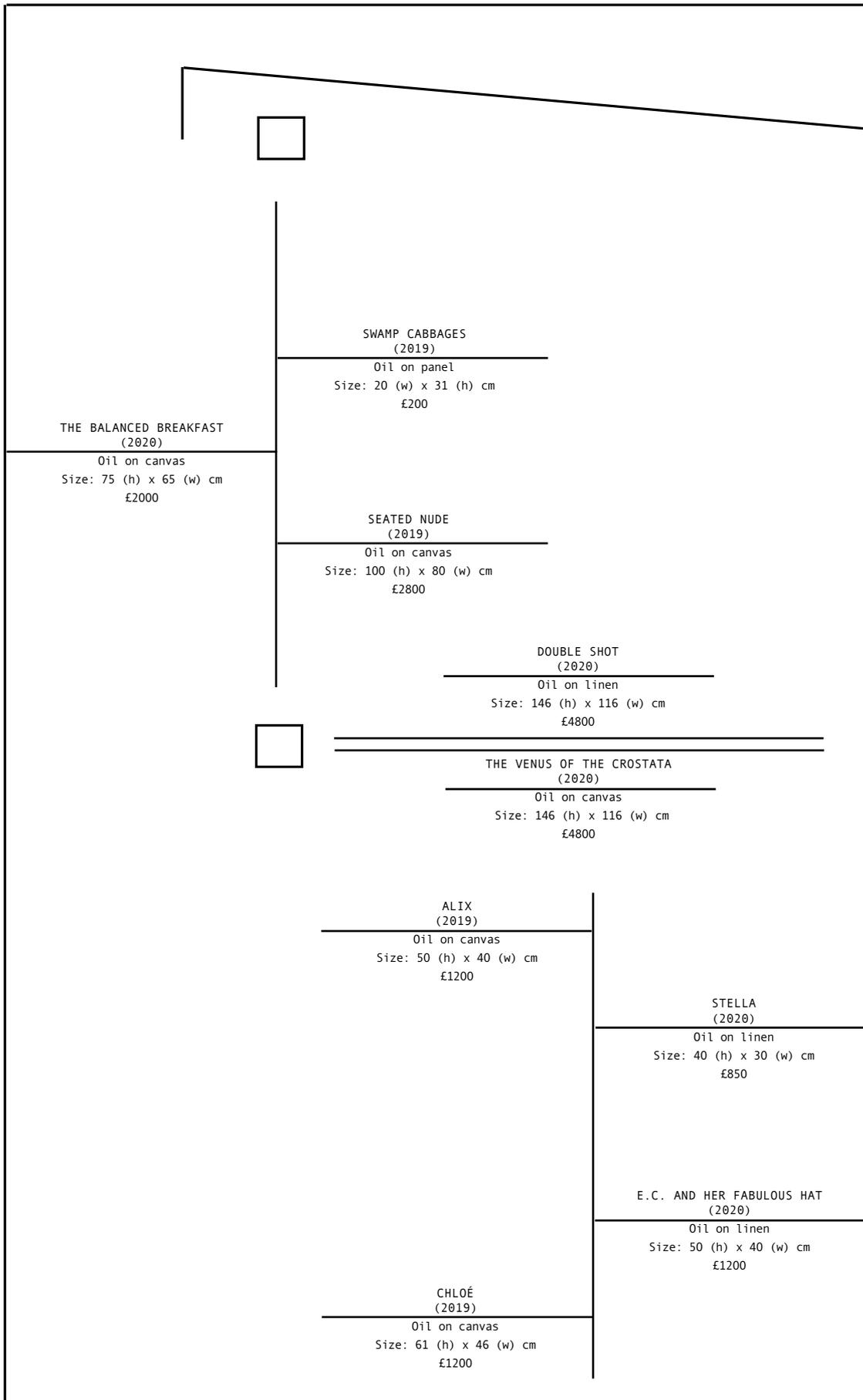
This 'collaging' results in a series of winks and allusions. In Gabriel's painting, 'The Balanced Breakfast', the Tuscan landscape in the background of a Ghirlandaio portrait that provided Gabriel's initial inspiration, has been transposed onto the kitchen tiles. The right-hand figure appearing in his 'Double Shot' is taken from Titian's *Sacred and Profane Love*. The left-hand woman seen in 'The Venus of the Crostata' is inspired by the central figure in Tintoretto's *Mercury and the Graces* (although she wears a dress from Dolce and Gabbana).

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SITTINGS/SIGHTINGS
Artworks

TERRACE



THE BALANCED BREAKFAST
(2020)

Oil on canvas
Size: 75 (h) x 65 (w) cm
£2000

SWAMP CABBAGES
(2019)

Oil on panel
Size: 20 (w) x 31 (h) cm
£200

SEATED NUDE
(2019)

Oil on canvas
Size: 100 (h) x 80 (w) cm
£2800

DOUBLE SHOT
(2020)

Oil on linen
Size: 146 (h) x 116 (w) cm
£4800

THE VENUS OF THE CROSTATA
(2020)

Oil on canvas
Size: 146 (h) x 116 (w) cm
£4800

ALIX
(2019)

Oil on canvas
Size: 50 (h) x 40 (w) cm
£1200

STELLA
(2020)

Oil on linen
Size: 40 (h) x 30 (w) cm
£850

E.C. AND HER FABULOUS HAT
(2020)

Oil on linen
Size: 50 (h) x 40 (w) cm
£1200

CHLOÉ
(2019)

Oil on canvas
Size: 61 (h) x 46 (w) cm
£1200

ENTRANCE / BAR