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'NO WORK TODAY' FOR PARRA AS THE ARTIST UNVEILS HIS LATEST CURVACEOUS EXHIBIT

THE DUTCH ARTIST'S LINES CAN'T STAND STILL



Parra's lines can't stand still. They bend, rise and swell. They curve. They hug his signature palette of red, blue and complimentary colors.

And it's amusing to consider that an artist synonymous with linework would actually know no boundaries. For years, the Dutch artist, born Pieter Janssen, has deftly navigated the creative gamut from sneaker shops to fine art galleries. He's covered all bases from designing record covers and flyers to starting his own skateboard brand Tired Skateboards, and back.

But, no matter the medium, you always know it's Parra.

For No Work Today, the Dutch artist and illustrator's first exhibition at Joshua Liner Gallery, he pushes his distinctly identifiable visual language further into the realm of abstraction. There is a reduction of the human form to but shapes, forms and bold color. "I collect images in my head from what I see around me in the times I'm not painting, and then scribble them down with pencil" says the artist. "...The theme plays a big part but I focus mainly on the composition, and that it will be a painting that is interesting to look at."

Joshua Liner Gallery

Armed as always with levity and a certain erotic playfulness (Read: thick thighs save lives), the collection of twelve works on canvas, ink drawings, and sculpture, seem to happily yawn and stretch as they explore simple leisurely pleasures. Whether reclining poolside or staying curled up in bed, the series of voluptuous everywomen as/and landscapes, have an unmistakable freehand feel. Parra let's the presence of his hand do all the talking for him.

But, it's in the obscuring of his characters faces, that the artist perhaps reveals the most: a beat for mystery. In No Work Today, Parra leaves room for wonder. It's a reminder of unknown knows.



No Work Today opens tonight at Joshua Liner Gallery (540 West 28th Street, NYC) and runs through December 17, 2016.

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