

Timothy Taylor



Sahara Longe, *Queue*, 2023. Oil on linen. 21 5/8 × 19 3/4 in. (55 × 50 cm) © Sahara Longe

Frieze Seoul Sahara Longe

6 – 9 September 2023
Booth C21
COEX, 513 Yeongdong-daero
Gangnam-gu, Seoul, Korea

Timothy Taylor is pleased to return to Frieze Seoul with a booth dedicated to new paintings by Sahara Longe (b. 1994, London). This is the first solo presentation of Longe's work in Asia, following the artist's debut exhibition with Timothy Taylor, London in June 2023.

Longe is known for her paintings of semi-abstract figures painted in rich hues. Characterized by a stylized flatness and uncanny quality, the paintings on view at Frieze Seoul feature intimate portraits

of figures who never quite meet the eye of the viewer. Longe's subjects appear distracted, vaguely haunted by something out of frame. Some are isolated, and others are lost in thought within social environments. Her figures stand before gestural suggestions of landscapes and enigmatic interiors—where they withhold emotion, the vibrant hues of their surroundings and simple garments convey multitudes.

Longe studied the traditions of classical portraiture at Charles H. Cecil Studios, an atelier in Florence, where she was trained in the techniques and styles of old-master paintings. She continues to employ materials that would have been used in that era, painting on a thick grain linen with raw pigment in a distinct palette of vermillion, lilac, raw sienna, and ochre, even as her work metabolizes later centuries of the Western art historical canon.

Contextualizing her recent work, Longe has described the pleasure of observing a party, where one might see “strings of people set in distinct poses, some knotted together chatting, occasionally a figure or two who stand looking around, alone and apart.” In the paintings at Frieze Seoul, Longe shifts her interest to these characters who are set apart, suggesting the vividness of their inner worlds. In compositions that move from spare, decisive brushwork to searching expressive marks, Longe captures scenes that simmer with a contemplative tension. Integrating historical strategies of abstraction into portraiture, Longe offers up a startling alternate realism.

About the Artist

Sahara Longe was born in 1994 in London, where she continues to live and work today. From 2014 to 2018, she studied classical portraiture at Charles H. Cecil Studios in Florence. Recently, her work has been the subject of solo exhibitions at Timothy Taylor, London (2023) and Deli Gallery, New York (2022). Longe has been included in institutional group exhibitions including those at the Whitechapel Gallery, London (2022); York Art Museum (2022); and Palazzo Monti, Brescia (2021). Her work resides in significant private and public collections worldwide, including the York Art Gallery, United Kingdom; the FLAG Art Foundation, New York; and the Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection. In 2023, Longe received a commission from His Majesty the King to paint a portrait of Jessie Stephens, MBE, SLPM for the exhibition *Windrush: Portraits of a Pioneering Generation*.

Press Enquiries

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