

## Galerie Francesca Pia

**Eliza Douglas  
Puppies Puppies (Jade Kuriki Olivo)**

**October 26 – November 30, 2019  
Opening Friday October 25, 2019, 6–8**

Galerie Francesca Pia is pleased to announce an exhibition by Eliza Douglas and Puppies Puppies (Jade Kuriki Olivo) based on a dialogue between the two artists and a mutual reflecting on their respective artistic practices.

With the six new paintings in this show, Eliza Douglas continues to reference specific works of other artists within her painting. Each of the works depicts a documentation of earlier costumed performances by Puppies Puppies in which her identity remained veiled. Only when Puppies Puppies started hormone replacement therapy as a means to begin gender transition did both the artist's body and her real name appear in her work. Douglas's painterly depictions of these performances behind the grid of a window, provides a proverbial glimpse into Puppies Puppies' artistic past.

Douglas's video work in the exhibition appears as some fragmented version of the TV series *The Walking Dead*, from which she has cut out all scenes with actual humans. Her binge watching performance as a postapocalyptic zombie in front of a large mirror-like screen, is a self reflecting and parodistic commentary on a contemporary social media centered life and her own objectification as a figure in the art and the fashion world.

Puppies Puppies' (Jade Kuriki Olivo) performance in which she lies in an open coffin is not only referencing her previous work but can be seen as a metaphor for the dysphoria she feels as a queer/trans person. Death is also something we all have to contemplate. It can be an especially persistent subject when someone is dealing with depression or severe health concerns.

The preventive protection devices by Puppies Puppies (Jade Kuriki Olivo)—similar to the boarded-up windows, the iron gates, and the shelves full of supplies—convey the shared feeling of a diffuse threat and the overarching need to prepare for some sort of impending doom in a world that is rapidly deteriorating. Puppies Puppies dedicates her work in this exhibition to her father who recently passed away on September 28, 2019. He was often overly cautious and was consistently prepared for the worst-case scenario. He overcame huge obstacles in his life. Carlos Olivo was always prepared to take on an unknown threat.

Eliza Douglas (b. 1984, New York) lives and works in Berlin and New York. Previous solo exhibitions include *Overduin & Co*, Los Angeles 2019; Jewish Museum, New York 2018; Schinkel Pavillon, Berlin 2017; Galerie Buchholz, New York 2017; Nassauischer Kunstverein, Wiesbaden 2017; Folkwang Museum, Essen 2017 and *Air de Paris*, 2016. She is co-creator of music, art direction, costume designer and performer in: *Anne Imhof: Sex*, BMW Tate Live, Tate Modern, London 2019; *Faust*, German Pavilion, Venice Biennale 2017, Venice 2017; *Angst II*, Hamburger Bahnhof – Museum für Gegenwart, Berlin 2016; *Angst*, Kunsthalle Basel, Basel 2016.

Puppies Puppies (Jade Kuriki Olivo), (b. 1989, Texas) lives and works in Los Angeles. She recently had solo exhibitions at *Remai Modern*, Saskatoon 2019; *Halle für Kunst*, Lüneburg 2019; *Balice Hertling*, Paris 2019; *Queer Thoughts*, New York 2019; *Galerie Barbara Weiss*, Berlin 2018; *XYZ Collective*, Tokyo 2018; *Overduin & Co.*, Los Angeles 2017; *Oracle*, Berlin 2017; *T293*, Rome 2017;

BFA Boatos, Sao Paulo 2016. Her work was included in the 2017 Whitney Biennial, and the 9th Berlin Biennale.