

December 22, 2018

PRESS RELEASE***Nicole Charbonnet: Key to All Mythologies***

Exhibition Dates: January 5–February 23, 2019
 Opening Reception: Saturday, January 5 from 6–8 pm
 Gallery Location: 432 Julia Street, New Orleans, LA 70130
 Hours: Tuesday–Saturday, 10 AM–5 PM
 Contact Info: 504.522.1999; www.arthurrogergallery.com

The Arthur Roger Gallery is pleased to present ***Key to All Mythologies***, an exhibition of paintings by Nicole Charbonnet. The exhibition will be on view at Arthur Roger Gallery, located at 432 Julia Street, from January 5–February 23, 2019. The gallery will host an opening reception with the artist in attendance, Saturday, January 5 from 6-8 pm.

Myths are a timeless connection to the human story for Nicole Charbonnet. These stories have been retold over and over across all forms and cultures and provide perspective to the human condition. And while today's monsters may appear different, human nature remains the same. Charbonnet states, "the mythological paintings are a response to current social, cultural and political situations and a materialization of the silent unfolding phenomenological experiences of perception, cognition and memory." *Key to all Mythologies*, the artist's seventh exhibition with the gallery and features medium- to large-scale paintings based on motifs from featuring the human form drawn from mythological paintings. There are recognizable images from noteworthy artists such as Henri Matisse, Édouard Manet, Michelangelo, and many others.



Amor Vincit Omnia (After Caravaggio), 2018 | Acrylic, plaster and paper on canvas | 72 x 60 inches

The distressed works are constructed using an additive and subtractive process. Layers of collage – literal debris from the artist's life including letters, receipts, books, and fabric – are built up and manipulated with paint, modeling paste, marble dust and plaster. The compositions, which include superimposed words, textures and images, are repeatedly sanded, scraped, carved and repainted. They retain a sort of palimpsestic record of preexisting stages and become metaphors for the phenomena of recollection. In *Austerlitz*, W.G. Sebald, wrote, "Our concern with history...is a concern with preformed images already imprinted on our brains, images at which we keep staring while the truth lies elsewhere, away from it all."

Born in New Orleans, Nicole Charbonnet received her B.A. from the University of Virginia and her M.F.A. from Boston University. She also studied in France at the Academic Goetz in Paris and the Cleveland Institute of Art's school in Lacoste. She has exhibited nationally and internationally and received numerous honors and awards including grants from the Pollock-Krasner, Elizabeth Greenshields and Art Matters Foundations.

For more information please contact the Arthur Roger Gallery at 504.522.1999 or visit our website at arthurrogergallery.com.