

# Adams and Ollman

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**PARIS INTERNATIONALE**  
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17 RUE DU FAUBOURG POISSONNIERE  
PARIS, FRANCE

Adams and Ollman is pleased to present Jose Bonell and Joan Nelson at the 10th edition of Paris Internationale. The fair will open with a preview on October 15 and will be on view through October 20, 2024.

Catalan artist Jose Bonell creates figurative paintings that function like pictorial “what ifs,” proposing questions, suggesting absurdities, sharing secrets, or hinting at moods or narratives. Bonell captures his daily observations—an overheard phrase, an exchange on the street—and records his memories and daydreams with quick and immediate brushstrokes and a muted, hazy palette of grays, pinks, blues, and browns. The paintings are populated with people and objects that function as allegorical subjects for explorations of work and labor, class and taste, gender roles and expectations, comedy and tragedy, violence and desire. The paintings rupture our experience of ordinary, everyday life to give us a glimpse of everything that might be possible or hiding under the surface.

Bonell often crops his figures and their environments, suggesting that what is outside of the painting’s framework is equally as important as what is within. Conjured from a place of childlike curiosity, these psychological scenarios veer towards fantasy and fetish—an outstretched leg, a tiny mirror, a melting watch—where much is left to the viewer’s imagination. These fragmented moments call to mind the contradictory and chaotic nature of an interior experience set to replay. The resulting paintings appear like dreams or apparitions, with the ideas and metaphors contained within coming into focus with distinct clarity before they dissipate. Working in the shadowy space between magic and reality, Bonell paints a picture of a world engaged in lyrical anarchy.



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American artist Joan Nelson occupies a unique place in the long history of landscape painting. Her works simultaneously speak to the experience of landscape and the complexity of representation, artfully incorporating reality, memory, and mediated experience. With a painterly maximalism, she depicts landforms, skies, and seas that are sublime and surreal, responding shrewdly to the conditions of feminism, spiritualism, science fiction, and the environment. Wielding a rich palette of paint, glitter, ink, and glass beads, Nelson conjures landscapes that might be pre-human or post-apocalyptic, or from another planet altogether. Her invented images push back against a male-dominated tradition of landscape painting and question deeply rooted narratives of expansion, conquest, and extraction. A striking feature across her work is the vitality Nelson imbues in her landscapes; the land feels alive and dynamic throughout. Her innovative compositions and unconventional materials challenge and expand the boundaries of the genre, offering a different perspective on our relationship with the natural world.

Jose Bonell (b. 1989, Barcelona, ES; where he continues to live and work) was awarded the Prix Novembre in Vitry-sur-Seine, France, in 2020. Alongside Sara Bonache, he is the co-director of Unica Editions, founded in 2020, which publishes artist's books and objects in limited series.

Joan Nelson (b. 1958, El Segundo, CA; lives and works in Stamford, NY) has exhibited at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY; The Fabric Workshop and Museum, Philadelphia, PA; Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA; Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX; Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN; Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, TX; Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA; among many others. Her work is included in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, and Whitney Museum of American Art, all New York, NY; Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA; Minneapolis Museum of Art, MN; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington D.C.; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA; Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH; and Archer M. Huntington Art Gallery, University of Texas at Austin. Nelson received her BFA from Washington University, St. Louis, MO.

Joan Nelson, *Untitled*, 2024, acrylic, spray paint, and damar resin on panel, 30h x 30w in, 76.20h x 76.20w cm

Jose Bonell, *Drawing Stars*, 2024 oil on linen, 51 1/8h x 39 3/8w in; 129.86h x 100.01w cm