

GALLERY 495

Ellon Gibbs | *Ambush in the Night*

May 8–11, 2025 | Booth 110, First Floor

Independent | Spring Studios, New York, NY

Gallery 495 is proud to present a solo booth by Brooklyn-based artist Ellon Gibbs at the 2025 Independent, running from May 8–11. Gibbs, (b. 1995 Brownsville, NY) brings a striking new body of work that explores the primal relationship between humanity and nature—raw, unfiltered, and urgent.

Gibbs' paintings feel both ancient and contemporary, existing in an enigmatic space that is unplaceable yet deeply familiar. His figures are locked in moments of survival—running, attacking, clinging to life—set against landscapes saturated in color, almost aflame. The unseen presence of fire and destruction hints at an underlying unraveling, a reflection of societal fractures and looming crisis.

Subtle yet unflinching, Gibbs' work offers a brutal commentary on contemporary life. His dystopian environments speak to a learned disconnect—between ourselves and nature, between our food sources, between our fellow humans. Growing up in the populated architecture of New York City, he reflects on the paradox of urban life: millions living side by side, yet isolated within their own apartments or screens.

Within the chaos, there is a call for return, a return to something instinctual, rooted in our mammalian nature. This series, while dark and evocative of end times, suggests a path forward: a reckoning with what we've lost and what we might reclaim.

Gibbs' presentation at Independent is displayed in tandem to a solo show at Gallery 495 in Catskill, New York. *The Color Blue is Warm*, gestures toward the central paradox in this body of work: blue as a color that resists easy definition. Drawing on the historical and cultural complexity of blue—its ties to lapis lazuli, denim, mysticism, and danger—Gibbs wields the color as a force of contradiction: a warning and an embrace, serene and apocalyptic, cooling and combustible.