

NICOLETTI & MANAGEMENT

PRESENT

08.05.25

NANA WOLKE

11.05.25

INDEPENDENT NYC

NICOLETTI and Management are pleased to participate in Independent Art Fair with a joint solo presentation of new paintings by New York based, Slovenian artist Nana Wolke.

Exploring issues related to perception and modes of apprehension of space and time, Wolke's series of works usually begins on film-like sets, where the artist records the unfolding of staged situations and improvised actions occurring in spaces spanning social hierarchy – from hotel rooms and private apartments to architectural complexes and public spaces, among others.

At Independent, Wolke presents a new series of paintings honing in on and observing the distortion of symbols associated with American suburbia through the prism of waning girlhood and newfound power in femininity, replete with Campbell's soup cans, cowboy iconography, bananas, seduction, boredom and escapism. Painting in her signature style from self-captured low-fidelity footage, she directs her (and our) attention towards Upstate New York, depicting scenes soaked in references to iconic late 90s films such as *The Virgin Suicides*, or *American Beauty*. Playing with the viewer's position and perspective while moving from exterior to interior spaces, Wolke focuses her attention on unstable, transitory moments, capturing the impermanence of youth and the existential drama of life lived at the margins.

Shot interchangeably in Callicoon, Upstate New York, and on constructed sets in New York City, the locations were carefully selected for their evocative qualities – quiet residential streets lined with early 20th-century homes, weaving between open fields and dense woods. These backdrops reference a nostalgic American suburban landscape that is both familiar and symbolically charged. Upstate's proximity to New York City heightens a psychological tension of proximity and distance – a sense of the "just-out-of-reach". This tension mirrors broader questions about geographical and cultural peripheries, echoing adolescent desires to transcend one's immediate environment, whether in rural America or, in Wolke's case, Eastern Europe in relation to the global West.

Materially, Wolke's process reinforces this conceptual

layering. Construction sand, often sourced from the filming location itself, is mixed into the gesso to create a granular substrate. Over this textured ground, the artist first applies thin layers of oil paint, emulating the artificial luminosity of staged lighting, before tapping thicker paint onto the surface to mimic the spontaneous, low-resolution aesthetic of nighttime videography. The resulting paintings echo both cinematic composition and tactile immediacy, underscoring the tension between control and rawness that characterizes her practice.

For any enquiries, please contact:

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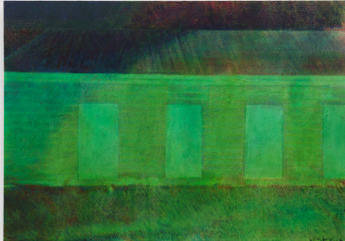
Nana Wolke was born in Ljubljana, Slovenia in 1994 and lives and works in New York, USA. She holds an MFA from Goldsmiths, University of London and received BFA with honors from the Academy of Visual Arts in Ljubljana. She completed her last year of parallel study at Academy for Fine Arts and Design in Ljubljana through a study exchange at Hochschule für Grafik und Buchkunst in Leipzig (class of Prof. Michael Riedel).

Wolke's solo exhibitions include NICOLETTI, London, UK (Forthcoming - 2025); Independent, New York, with NICOLETTI and Management, New York (2025); Liste Art Fair, with NICOLETTI, Basel, CH (2024); *Breed*, Management, New York, US (2024); *Wanda's*, NICOLETTI, London, UK (2022–23); *High Seat*, Castor Gallery, London, UK (2022); *4:28 - 5:28 am*, VIN VIN, Vienna, AU (2021); *Some Girls Wander by Mistake*, Fondazione Coppola, Vicenza, IT (2021); and *The Naughty Corner*, Stekljeni Atrij Gallery, Ljubljana, SI (2019).

Group exhibitions include *Suprainfinit*, Bucharest, RO (Forthcoming - 2025); *Fragment II*, Commune, Vienna, AU (2025); *Signals Intelligence*, Eyes Never Sleep, New York, US (2025); *Cankarjev Dom*, Ljubljana, Slovenia, SI (2024); U3 Triennial of Contemporary Art, Museum of Modern Art, Ljubljana, Slovenia, SI (2024); *Open Globe*, Cankarjev Dom, Ljubljana, Slovenia, SI (2024); *Le vernissage, partie 1*, Brigitte Mulholland, Paris, FR (2024); *Sequence / Fragment*, NICOLETTI, London, UK (2024); *No Angels*, curated by Claire Koron Elat and Shelly Reich, Wilhelm Hallen, Berlin, DE (2023); *Stilled Images*, Tube Gallery, Palma de Mallorca, ES (2023); *Painters Painting Painters: A Study of Muses, Friends and Companions*, Green Art Family Foundation, Dallas, TX (2022); *Love is the Devil*, Marlborough Gallery, London, UK (2022); *And this skin of mine, to live again a second time*, GUTS Gallery, London, UK (2022); *Created in Slovenia*, Cukrarna Pallace, Shanghai, CN (2022); *All That and a Bag of Chips*, Des Bains, London, UK (2021); *CONTRAPPUNTO*, VIN VIN, Vienna, AU (2021); Independent Biennial, Cankarjev Dom, Ljubljana, SI (2021); Pigeon Pavillion, Bangkok Biennial, London, UK (2021); *Between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans*, Kiribati National Museum and Cultural Centre, Tarawa, KI (2019); *Daddy*, G2 Kunsthalle, Leipzig, DE (2018); *White on White*, 31. Biennial of Graphic Arts, Ljubljana, SI (2016).

In 2021, she was selected as part of Bloomberg New Contemporaries with exhibitions in Firstsite Museum and South London Gallery, both in UK.

Selected collections include M Woods, Beijing, China; SCoP - Shanghai Center of Photography, Shanghai, China; Fondazione Coppola, Vinceza, Italy.



**Nana Wolke**

00:00:00,000 --> 00:16:41,417 (*Great big white world*), 2025

Oil and construction sand on linen

140 x 200 cm

55 1/8 x 78 3/4 in

\$ 19,000.00 (+ applicable taxes)



**Nana Wolke**

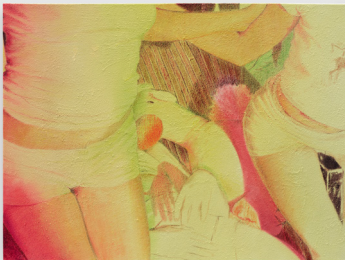
00:00:00,000 --> 00:16:41,417 (*Don't let them throw me away*), 2025

Oil and construction sand on canvas

200 x 140 cm

78 3/4 x 55 1/8 in

\$ 19,000.00 (+ applicable taxes)



**Nana Wolke**

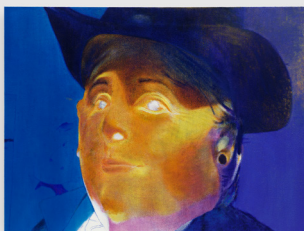
00:23:20,750 --> 00:37:17,042 (*Little sister*), 2025

Oil and construction sand on linen

122 x 91 cm

48 x 35 7/8 in

\$ 14,000.00 (+ applicable taxes)



**Nana Wolke**

00:24:53,208 --> 00:25:59,750 (*Mint julep testosterone*), 2025

Oil and construction sand on linen

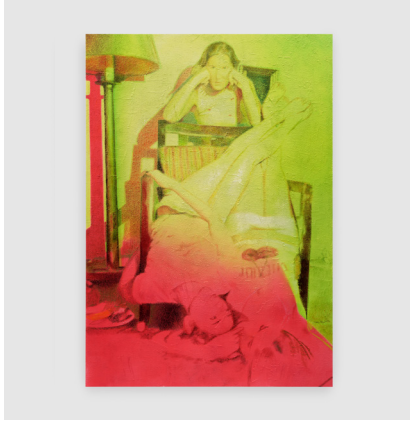
120 x 160 cm

47 1/4 x 63 in

\$ 17,000.00 (+ applicable taxes)

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LIST OF WORKS



**Nana Wolke**

*00:56:00,500 --> 01:21:07,625 (Each time I make my mother cry an angel dies and goes to heaven), 2025*

Oil and construction sand on linen

200 x 140 cm

78 3/4 x 55 1/8 in

\$ 19,000.00 (+ applicable taxes)