



ANDREW SENDOR

*Salome & Solvej, Apollo & Farne*  
September 14 - October 19 2024  
Make Room, Los Angeles



Make Room is delighted to present *Salome & Solvej, Apollo & Farne*, a solo exhibition of new paintings by New York-based artist Andrew Sendor. This is Sendor's first solo exhibition with the gallery.

This exhibition is divisible by three - paintings, installation, and sound - each component spurred by a core narrative that permeates Andrew Sendor's realm of considerations. For every solo presentation the artist develops a fictional story, which serves as the bedrock for artistic production. Sendor first envisions the characters then sets off on a writing process until arriving upon a well-rounded story. Once the essence of the characters and their situations become known, Sendor begins casting performance artists and actors to participate in what he refers to as "performative events". This requires costumes, props, lighting, and a documentarian to capture all of the action. After everything has been recorded, Sendor initiates the process of translating the ephemeral nature of live action into the permanence of painted imagery. Each work is thus a dialectical process between concrete referents and Sendor's whirling mind matter.

Without being overly verbose, these compositions are markedly cinematic in their approach and by way of Sendor's painterly touch. A saturated overdrive is weighed against the surreal narrative underpinning. Hyper blues with softened edges are present in paintings like *Solvej in Salome's treehouse praying for Freka Tusinbrande* and *Oneiric phenomenon #19: Solvej with Bhaya and Prema*, the latter of which details a recurring nightmare experienced by Solvej. Sendor deftly portrays the oneiric experience of the protagonist that consists of her eating poison leaves that render her frozen during an outdoor ballet performance. This narrative juncture is a prime example of the painter's convertible acumen between text and image.

Sendor doesn't shy away from the rich history of painting. For instance, *Solvej looks to the sea, breathes the salty air and becomes absorbed by the coastal atmosphere*, draws upon a Cubist philosophy through its fractured oceanic perspective.

This painting also taps into the sea dramas of Gustave Courbet as well as Caspar David Friedrich's pursuit in painting nature as a platform for profound spiritual experience. *Solvej admires the eagle's freedom and begins to imagine an escape from the confines of the ballet academy*, on the other hand, can be linked to Italian Renaissance painting - from the eternal to the transcendent- in its sky-oriented vantagepoint. Both of these works are split into four quadrants, a structure alluding to numerical symbolism: the four elements; the four seasons; the four points of the compass; the four phases of the moon.

Beyond the paintings, Sendor fosters an immersive experience, where each installation component is designed to replicate the physical sensations and environments found within the narrative. The space is enlivened by various blue and green walls and carpeted floors, along with numerous art objects staged in unconventional modes. There are paintings in Sendor's signature, custom-designed artist frames, utilizing various wood species including: Tiger maple, Walnut, Mahogany, and Sapele. Paintings situated on pedestals and wall shelves foreground both their objecthood and also Sendor's affinity for staging. The reverberations of an audio component also flood the gallery with a sonic influence, one that proffers the artist's storyline. This coming-of-age tale revolves around four young teens, Salome, Solvej, Farne, and Apollo as they first study at a Danish ballet academy, then escape on a cycling journey of self-discovery and life's deeper meaning.

*Salome & Solvej, Apollo & Farne* is the perfect encapsulation of Sendor's ongoing pursuits... between narrative drama and confronting painting's inescapable histories. Each work is a manifestation of the narrative's emotional and psychological layers, celebrating and interrogating the nature of representation in equal measure.

*Text by Reilly Davidson*



Andrew Sendor  
*Salome and Casparina's unfathomable fate*  
2024  
Oil on matte white Plexiglas, Sapele wood, in Tiger Maple Artist's Frame  
22 5/8 x 18 1/2 inches (framed)  
57.5 x 47 cm (framed)







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Andrew Sendor  
*Apollo in Salome's treehouse with Nanna & Tyr*  
2024  
Oil on matte white Plexiglas, Sapele wood, in Tiger Maple Artist's Frame  
22 5/8 x 18 1/2 inches (framed)  
57.5 x 47 cm (framed)









Andrew Sendor  
*Farne in Salome's treehouse with Vör, Eir & Magni*  
2024  
oil on matte white Plexiglas, Sapele wood,  
in Tiger maple artist's frame  
30 x 24 inches (framed)  
76.2 x 61 cm (framed)







Andrew Sendor  
*Solvej looks to the sea, breathes the salty air and becomes absorbed by the coastal atmosphere*  
2024  
oil on matte white Plexiglas in white powder coated aluminum frame  
48 x 64 3/4 inches // 121.3 x 164.5 cm







Andrew Sendor  
*After some hesitation, Salome slowly becomes intrigued  
by Solvej's vision*  
2024  
Oil on matte white Plexiglas with white-stained birch pedestal  
10 5/8 x 7 inches // 30 x 17.8 cm  
45 1/2 x 16 x 16 inches // 114.3 x 40.6 x 40.6 cm







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Andrew Sendor  
*Saturnina in Lágrimas de Paradoja on October 29*  
2024  
Oil on matte white Plexiglas, Sapele wood, in Tiger Maple Artist's Frame  
20 3/4 x 16 1/2 inches (framed)  
52.5 x 42 cm (framed)







Andrew Sendor  
*Saturnina in Lágrimas de Paradoja on October 29 (detail)*



Andrew Sendor  
*Oneiric phenomenon #19: Solvej with Bhaya and Prema*  
2023-24  
Oil on matte white Plexiglas, Sapele wood, in Tiger Maple Artist's Frame  
22 5/8 x 18 1/2 inches (framed)  
57.5 x 47 cm (framed)







Andrew Sendor  
*Solvej in her treehouse  
with the effects of Ammassalik Fjord (detail)*





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Andrew Sendor  
*Salome's remembrance of Rallis Royce in Saturday's home*  
2023  
oil on matte white Plexiglas, Walnut wood,  
in Tiger maple artist's frame  
20 3/4 x 16 1/2 inches  
52.5 x 42 cm









Andrew Sendor  
Solvej in her treehouse praying for Freka Tusinbrande  
2023  
Oil on matte white Plexiglas, Cherry wood, in tiger maple Artist's frame  
20 3/4 x 16 1/2 inches (framed)  
52.5 x 42 cm (framed)











Andrew Sendor is a visual artist recognized for his extraordinary facility in representational painting that serves to illuminate his ongoing engagement with the power of the imagination. The artist introduces us to fictional characters in storylines whose genesis derives from a unique creative process: Sendor scripts, produces, directs, and documents performances recounting the life and times of his eccentric cast. Representing scenes from these psychologically charged, hallucinatory narratives, each meticulously rendered artwork surveys the materiality of images and the interrelated history of photorealism and evolution of photography. Sendor builds monochromatic compositions using acute pictorial focus along with disrupted visual motifs, and situates the works in artist's frames whose physicality elevates the painted imagery – and which together comprise an idiosyncratic language of painting.

Andrew Sendor (b. 1977 in New York City) has mounted solo exhibitions at Sperone Westwater, NY in 2013, 2015, 2017, and 2020. In 2015, The Broad Art Museum MSU presented a solo exhibition "Andrew Sendor: Paintings, Drawings and a Film." More recently, his work was the subject of the two-person exhibition "Micro-Macro: Andrew Sendor and Ali Banisadr" at MOCA Jacksonville (2019). His works have been included in numerous museum exhibitions, including the Nassau County Museum of Art, NY; Funen Art Museum, Odense, Denmark; Hudson Valley MOCA, Peekskill, NY; Knoxville Museum of Art, Knoxville, TN; Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO; and the ARKEN Museum of Art, Ishøj, Denmark. Private and public collections owning his work include The Broad Art Museum MSU; The Morgan Library & Museum, New York; Hall Art Foundation, US and Germany; Rubell Museum, Miami; and Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville.