

gerardo rosales**fable chaser**

curated by luis pérez-oramas

nara roesler rio de janeiro

opening november 7, 6–9 pm

Gerardo Rosales, *Erizos*, 2024 [detail]. Photo: © Rafael Salim

Nara Roesler Rio de Janeiro is pleased to present *Fable's Chaser*, the first solo exhibition of Venezuelan artist Gerardo Rosales in Brazil. Curated by Luis Pérez-Oramas, the exhibition brings together approximately 44 works produced throughout 2024, including paintings on canvas, works on paper, and a large mural developed specifically for the exhibition.

Born in Venezuela, Gerardo Rosales now lives and works in Houston, USA, and is part of a global generation of artists who identify with a figurative approach to nature and sexuality, where species and genders multiply incessantly. His work is distinguished by its forest imagery, homoeroticism, and fantasy, where animal and human figures intertwine in acts of both love and hunting.

Another important aspect of his production is irony. This aspect is present both textually and figuratively through the

titles of his works, making constant references to fabulous narratives typical of a childhood imagination, where sexual ambiguity and gender conflict are evident.

In the words of Luis Pérez-Oramas: "His ultimate goal, perhaps, is to question a certain ideology of innocence with which we, humans of our time, transform childhood into an original fantasy. Against this, Rosales's works remind us, through the luminous beauty of their ornamental trellises, that there has never truly been an unknown origin or an era of innocence; that humanity has always, forever, been marked and destined by possession and desire, by its exultation and its anxiety, by its daily little death and its instant and provisional paradise."

Over the past few years, Rosales has participated in various exhibitions in different countries. Among his solo

exhibitions, highlights include: *Rio Chiquito* at the Museum of Contemporary Art Houston (2024) in Houston, USA; *Ornamento y Delito* at the Carmen Araujo Arte Gallery (2022) in Caracas, Venezuela; *Undercover* at the Galveston Art Center (2019) in Galveston, USA; and *Mind Your Step* at the Avis Frank Gallery (2013) in Houston, USA. Among group exhibitions, highlights include: *Withstand: Latinx Art during Conflicts* at the Holocaust Museum (2021) in Houston, USA; *Carriers: The Body as a Site of Danger and Desire* at the Blaffer Museum (2021) in Houston, USA; and *Lo Politico* at the Carmen Araujo Arte Gallery (2014) in Caracas, Venezuela. His work is included in significant collections such as the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection in New York, USA; the Bank of Venezuela in Caracas, Venezuela; and the Ateneo de Valência in Valência, Venezuela.

about nara roesler

Nara Roesler is a leading Brazilian contemporary art gallery, representing seminal Brazilian and international artists who emerged in the 1950s as well as preeminent mid-career and emerging artists who dialogue with the currents put forth by these historical figures. Founded by Nara Roesler in 1989, the gallery has consistently fomented curatorial practice while upholding the utmost quality in art production. This has actively been put into practice through a select and rigorous exhibitions program created in close collaboration with its artists; the implementation and fostering of the Roesler Curatorial Project, a platform for curatorial projects; and continued support to artists beyond the gallery space, working with institutions and curators in offsite shows. In 2012, the gallery doubled its São Paulo exhibition space, in 2014 it expanded to Rio, and in 2015 it opened in New York City, continuing its mission to provide the best platform for its artists to show their work.

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