

## Michelle Doll

### Tokens

1 September – 1 October 2017

Opening reception Thursday 31 August | 6–8 pm

**American artist Michelle Doll pursued her art education with a BFA at Kent State University and then at The New York Academy of Art where she graduated 'cum laude' in 2006. Since then she has had a distinguished track record of exhibitions in America, especially, New York. She has shown in many international locations including Oslo, Norway. She lives and works in Hoboken, NJ. The Pontone Gallery is delighted to stage her first solo show in London.**

The artist makes paintings of intimate moments of contact between people. She deploys a classical, representational method, which exploits a subtle handling of tone and colour to express the complex variations of the male and female body. Skin and flesh fascinate her and this is expressed in the delicately worked surfaces of the paintings: We see ivory fields of flesh shot through with faint blue veins and the stronger graphic lines of tattoos, pinker areas of the body contrast with scraps of skilfully realised clothing, intertwined arms and limbs reveal the erotic tension of alternately tensed and relaxed muscle.

Of particular note in these paintings is the treatment of hands. The power of touch is implicit in their combinations and gestures. There is a sense that that to know something is to touch it. Skilfully rendered, this most difficult of forms references Renaissance archetypes, perhaps Botticelli's 'Primavera' and also the evocatively placed hands of 'The Arnolfini Marriage'. There is a correspondence between the touch of the painter's brush on canvas and the stroke of hand across skin. We become aware of the tactile power of paint and its potential to make an immediate and powerful connection to the corporeal world of the body.

These paintings look at the relationship between couples and talk about shared, private moments. They reveal an erotic closeness and mutual vulnerability, something timelessly human and endlessly fascinating.



**Couple (ALJ\_TK1)**  
2017 | Oil on Panel | 15 x 15 cm (6 x 6 in)



**Couple (ALJ\_TK2)**  
2017 | Oil on Panel | 15 x 15 cm (6 x 6 in)

# Pontone

GALLERY

## MICHELLE DOLL

### EDUCATION

- 2006 New York Academy of Art, NY, Master of Fine Art, Cum Laude  
1999 Kent State University, Kent, OH, BFA, Cum Laude

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2015 New Works, Galleri Ramfjord, Oslo, Norway  
Between Love and Me, Lyons Weir Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
2012 Shelter, Blank Space Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
Winter Wind, Hamilton Square, Jersey City, New Jersey, USA  
2009 Say I Am You, DFN Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
2008 Works from St. Barths, Eden Rock Gallery, St. Barths, French West Indies

### RECENT SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 Women Painting Women in Earnest, Customs House Museum, Clarksville, TN, USA  
Palette 2017, Abend Gallery, Denver, CO, USA  
Size Doesn't Matter, Bernaducci Meisel Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
Forever, Lodge Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
Luminance, Lyons Wier Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
Formation, Bernaducci Meisel Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
2016 Scope Miami, Galleri Ramfjord, Miami, FL, USA  
Obsession/ Reference/ Gesture, Willis Smith Gallery, Ringling College of Art and Design, Sarasota, FL, USA  
Take Home a Nude, Sotheby's, New York, NY, USA  
Instalart, Q Art Salon, Santa Ana, CA, USA  
Summer Sessions, Lyons Wier Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
Three Woman Show, Galleri Ramfjord, Oslo, Norway  
Scope Basel, Galleri Ramfjord, Basel, Switzerland  
NYAA Group Exhibition, The Vendue, Charleston, South Carolina, USA  
2015 Between Us, The Lodge Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
The Mayfair Exhibition, Lyons Wier Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
Immortality and Vulnerability, Zhou B Art Center, Chicago, IL, USA  
Artist's Gaze: Seeing Women in the 21st Century, Sirona Fine Art, Hallandale, FL, USA  
Art Palm Beach, Sirona Fine Art, Palm Beach, FL, USA  
Small Works, Sirona Fine Art, Hallandale, FL, USA  
2014 Love it, Locket, Leave it, Island Weiss Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
Art Miami, Lyons Wier Gallery, Miami, FL, USA  
Lucid Visions, Panepinto Gallery, Jersey City, NJ, USA  
Thou Art Mom, Pierro Gallery, South Orange, NJ, USA



**Couple (NN\_SQ3)**  
2017 | Oil on Canvas | 61 x 61 cm (24 x 24 in)



**Couple (NN\_SQ2)**  
2016 | Oil on Canvas | 61 x 61 cm (24 x 24 in)