

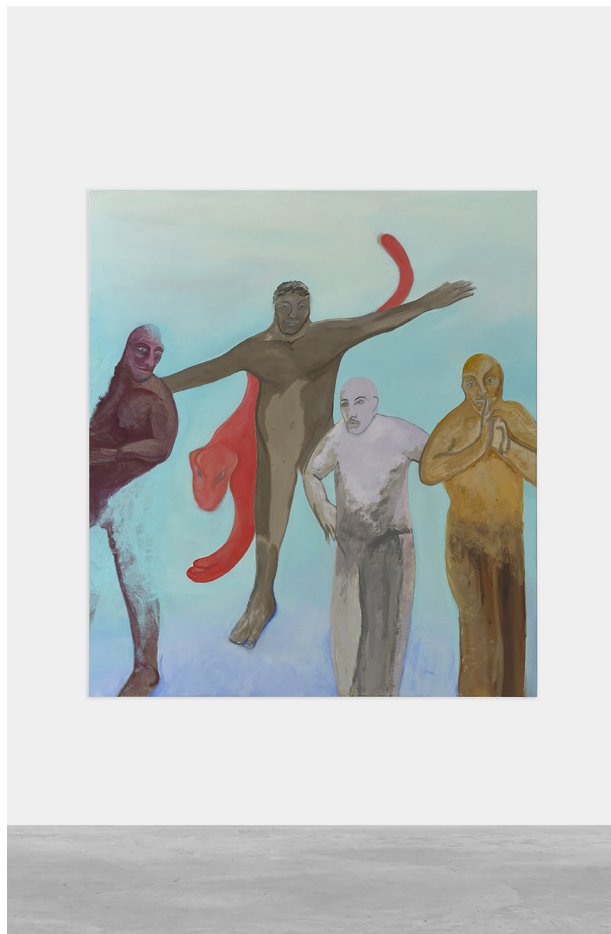
Peruvian-Born Artist Paolo Salvador Creates a Colorful, Dream-Like Mythology. See Images From His New Berlin Show Here

“Alegorías Perdidas” is the artist's first solo show with Peres Projects.

Katie White, July 20, 2020



Paolo Salvado, *Pumakunaq Tutayuqnin* (2020). Courtesy of Peres Projects.



Paolo Salvador, *No Digas Nada* (2020). Courtesy of Peres Projects.

In “Alegorías Perdidas,” a new exhibition of paintings by Berlin-based artist Paolo Salvador, now on view at Peres Gallery in Berlin, animals trek across nearly every canvas. Under acid pink skies and between royal blue trees, large wild cats and dog-like creatures walk in unexpected harmony with human figures, themselves in various states of disarray.

The works have the strange effect of seeming to depict both a primordial past and a dystopian future at the same time—which is intentional. The Lima-born artist has said that he strives to transform the personal into the allegorical. Indeed, the nearly archetypal figures he depicts, who are pictured wandering through open, undefined expanses of color or appear alone inside a home, are based on selfies that Salvador has taken in his studio (though without being told, it would be hard to guess that these images were all based on one individual.)

Instead, these images capture the feeling of general human loneliness—one that speaks to this strange moment in time when isolation is a means of persevering health.

Harkening to the imagery of Mesoamerica, Salvador conflates imagery of man and animal with his own past and memories of his life in Peru, making them one in the same. In this sense, his dream-like canvases capture the universal stories of all those far from home and working to carry their pasts into the present.