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ATP DIARY

The dreamlike realities of Dylan Solomon Kraus at Peres Project, Milan

With his visions, the artist seems to invite us to reconsider the primordial forms of

reality, their simple depth.

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The Peres Projects gallery - founded in California in 2002 by Javier Peres and currently has branches in Berlin and Seoul - makes its debut in Milan with the solo exhibition of New York painter Dylan Solomon Kraus (1987, US). The exhibition space is on Piazza Belgioioso - the former site of Massimo De Carlo's gallery - and it opened during the Milano Artweek. The exhibition is showing the artist's latest work, entitled *Holy Unrest.*

The ambience of his paintings are reminiscent of famous artists from the 19th and 20th century, from the dreamlike dimensions of the Symbolists to the fairy-tale paintings by Chagall, to the tones of colour of the Der Blaue Reiter group to resonances of Metaphysics.

His subjects are in fact the result of the artist's profound interest in mystical symbolism, his paintings

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are constructions of fictitious and enchanted worlds, that, when are not dark and obscure, reverberate across the canvas.



Characterised by a frozen temporality, the landscapes - or parts of them - seem to be reverberations of an interior time made up of dimensions, with dark or extremely bright colours, with elements reduced to the essential (I am thinking of the cities that often appear in the background of his paintings), or they are finely stylised, for example the painting *Archangel* (2022) which shows in the foreground a large white bird against a dark night.

Defined as 'psychic journeys', his canvases reveal often dark dimensions whereby, under a crescent moon, there are silent and surreal towns. It is no coincidence that the exhibition starts with this painting, it reminds us of De Chirico empty town squares; but while the great master conveyed light-flooded surreality, Solomon Kraus reduces the palette and the details, by switching off the brightness in favour of a hinted perspective that vanishes in the darkness of night.