

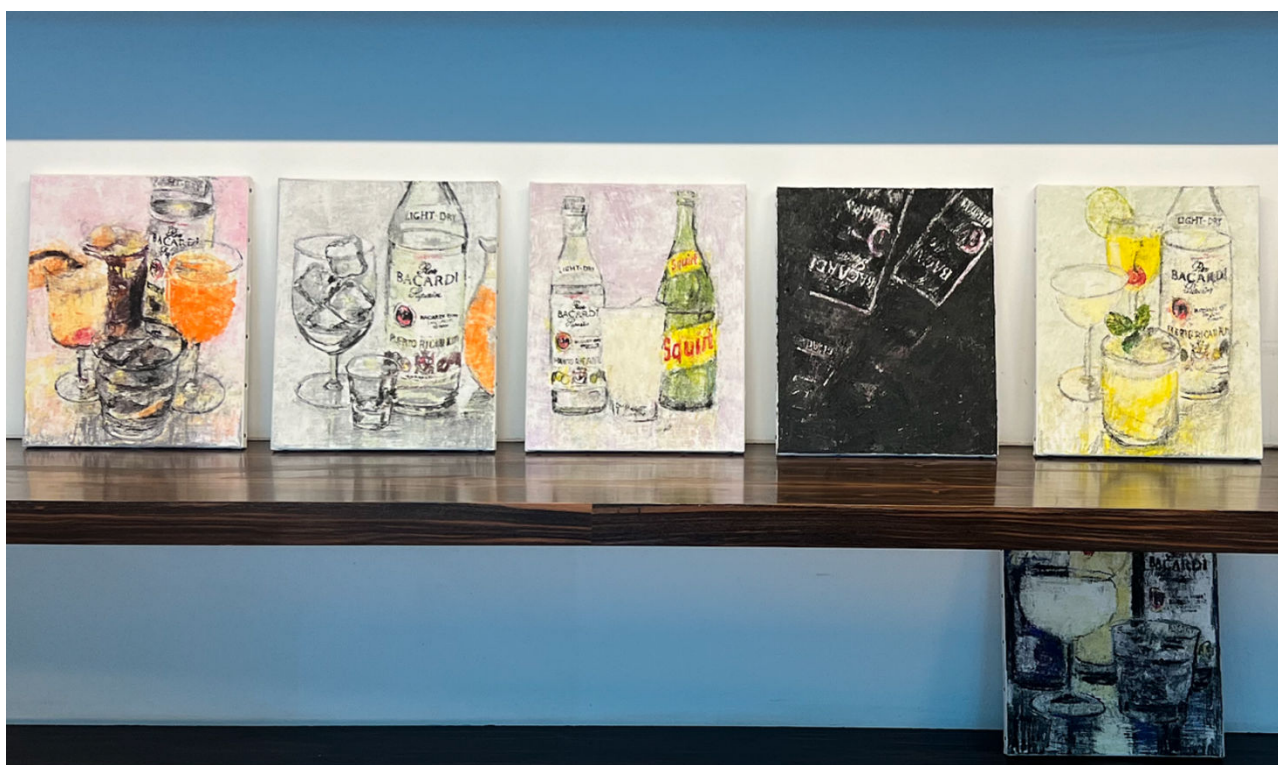
PRESS RELEASE

ENOC PÉREZ

« UNDER THE PALM TREES »

Exhibition from October 18th to December 1st, 2023
Monday - Friday, 10am - 7pm, Saturday by appointment
75, rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré, 75008 Paris

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Galerie 75 Faubourg is delighted to present *Under the Palm Trees*, its second solo exhibition devoted to the Puerto Rico-born and New York-based artist Enoc Pérez.

“When I started to make paintings of rum bottles, I made them because they were to me, self-portraits, still life’s, American pop art and lies. Drinking rum never made me popular with women or rich or happy. It made me an alcoholic and still I love those images. Very much like Stockholm syndrome.” Enoc Pérez, September 2023.

Enoc Pérez's latest works were produced in the warm embrace of the Villa Navarra in Le Muy, South of France. In this exhibition, the artist delves into the realm of basic commercial clichés, transcending them to become integral facets of our very identities.

The foundation of Pérez's reflection relies on a Puerto Rico that lies in the depths of its being as well as on an extensive archive of documentary material from the 1960s, featuring promotional content for the island. This seminal material carries powerful connotations for both natives and foreigners alike, and Perez masterfully transmutes it into a personal form of artistic expression.



Much like in his beloved Puerto Rico, where the island's dreams and promises often unfold or not, beneath the swaying palm trees, Pérez transports us to the sun-soaked south of France, where the allure of these towering palms becomes a symbol of the region's identity. Whether those promises manifest or remain in the realm of imagination is irrelevant, for under the palm trees, all dreams are carefully crafted to override any inconvenient realities.

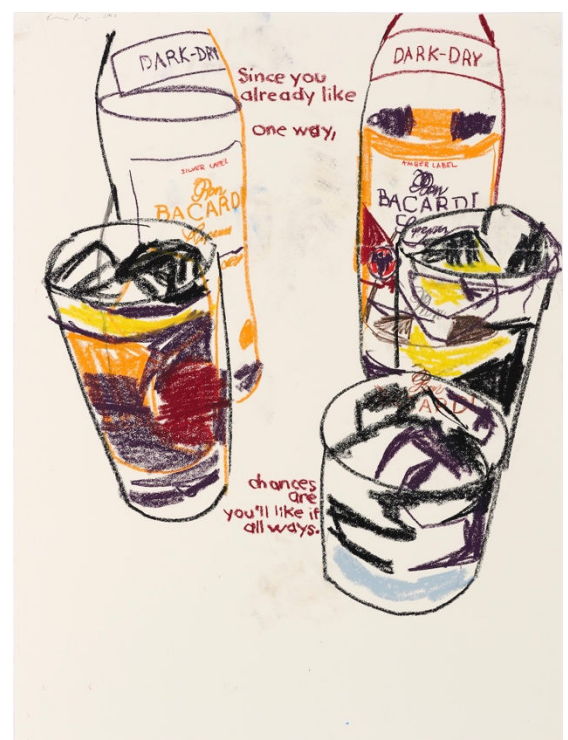
In Pérez's art, these clichés morph into a powerful representation of our collective identity. Just as in Puerto Rico, where touristy commercial images of resorts, luxury, sensuality, and spirits mirror a complex colonial history and contemporary existence, the artist's work challenges us to embrace the multifaceted nature of our own identities.

Enter a world where Pérez's paintings of rum bottles are both, classical still life and American pop art. With an elaborate and poignant touch, he explores the paradoxical allure of these images. The promises that these rum advertisements imply did not make him popular, wealthy, or joyful, but still he loves them and identifies them as his very own. In a way, it's a journey akin to Stockholm Syndrome, where the captive falls in love with their captor, albeit in this case, it's the seductive power of these commercial clichés that captivates our imaginations.

Join us on this mesmerizing voyage as we explore how Enoc Pérez's art transforms the ordinary into the extraordinary, revealing the profound connections between identity, memory, and the images that shape our lives.



Untitled, 2023
Wax pencil on paper
30 x 22 in



Untitled, 2023
Wax pencil on paper
30 x 22 in



All ways, 2023

Oil on canvas
16 1/8 x 13 in

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Enoc Pérez (born in 1967 in San Juan, Puerto Rico) moved to New York in 1986 where he received a BFA from Pratt Institute in 1990 and an MFA from CUNY Hunter College in 1992. His work is part of the permanent collections of major institutions including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; The British Museum, London; Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven; New York Public Library; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington DC; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami; and The Museum of Contemporary Art, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Solo exhibitions have been held at Ben Brown Fine Arts, Hong Kong, London, and Palm Beach; Harper's, East Hampton; Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico, San Juan; Dallas Contemporary, Dallas; UTA Artist Space, Los Angeles; Koenig & Clinton, New York; Peter Blum Gallery, New York; Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Paris; Thomas Amman Fine Arts, Zürich; Acquavella Galleries, New York; Corcoran Art Gallery, Washington, D.C.; and Mitchell-Innes & Nash, New York. Enoc Pérez lives and works in New York state.



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Pages 1 & 2 : Residence of Enoc Pérez at Villa Navarra (Le Muy, France). Photos : Justine de Noirmont

Pages 3 & 4 : © Enoc Pérez. Photos : Fabrice Gousset

Page 5 : Portrait of Enoc Pérez. Photo : Loïc Thébaud

ABOUT GALERIE 75 FAUBOURG

Galerie 75 Faubourg is a contemporary art gallery mainly dedicated to the primary market. It has recently proposed personal exhibitions devoted to Kenny Scharf, Enoc Pérez, Rafa Macarrón and Renk, as well as group shows, particularly with partners to bring its space to life through other eyes (Harper's, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, galerie Frank Elbaz and Vincent Fraikin with an exhibition dedicated to A.R. Penck).

ABOUT VILLA NAVARRA (LE MUY, FRANCE)

Close to the family estate, the Villa Navarra, designed by Rudy Ricciotti, presents exhibitions, sometimes in collaboration with partners, in an inspiring and ambitious architectural and environmental context. It is also a venue for artists in residence. Enoc Pérez stayed and worked there during the summer of 2023.

Recent Villa Navarra exhibitions include *Kenny Scharf, More Moodz* (2021), *Ettore Sottsass at Villa Navarra* (2022) and *Renk, Voyages sur le motif part II* (2023).