



Not Yet Here

Cameron Barker | Chris Minard | Robert Martin May 6 – 12, 2025 75 Varick St., Manhattan

"Queerness is not yet here. Queerness is an ideality. Put another way, we are not yet queer, but we can feel it as the warm illumination of a horizon imbued with potentiality. We have never been queer, yet queerness exists for us as an ideality that can be distilled from the past and used to imagine a future. The future is queerness's domain."

— José Esteban Muñoz, Cruising Utopia: The Then and There of Queer Futurity

Not Yet Here brings three figurative artists—Cameron Barker, Robert Martin, and Chris Minard—together to show how queer people have always been the arbiters of their own utopia. Utopia is typically described as something to be reached. Queerness challenges us to find paradise now. It is the practice of surviving, finding joy and connecting despite the world around it. Utopia in a constant dystopia.

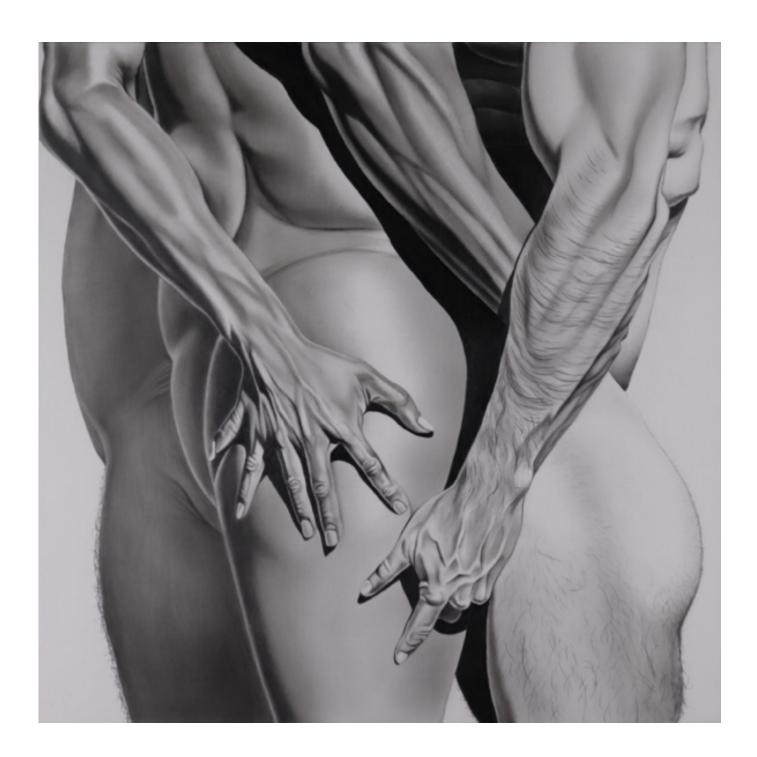
These artists use the figure to move beyond the real and discover queer imaginations challenging the past, present and future. Their artwork embodies the idea that queer utopia exists within all aspects of time.

Robert Martin's paintings of alters to queer nostalgia and hazy domestic scenes become lexicons of who we were and are. Dance floors and glittery boots become reliquaries of queer joy. In Martin's paintings, the relationship between space and figure enmeshes into one to be read as a recollection of a communal dream. Martin's work serves as an archive of who we are by platforming spaces of queer safety: moments in time we can go to be held, as the rest of the world falls away.

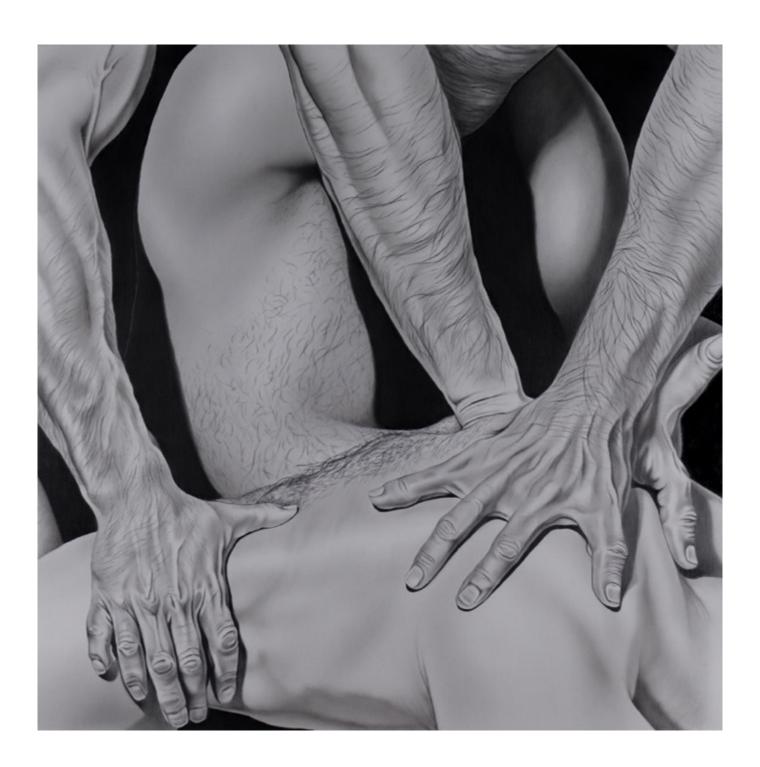
Chris Minard's paintings construct worlds around figures he knows from life. Plucked from the present, the figures are surrounded by a world of the artists construction and queer imagination. In these saturated environments, the human and the surreal combine to create a home beyond the tangible fueled by beauty and desire.

Cameron Barker's work questions the future of touch by merging western traditional practices of figurative rendering and AI generated images of queer intimacy. Temporal moments of connection are queered through AI generation and then slowed exponentially through a meticulous drawing practice. His work challenges the progressing overlap of virtual and physical space and how we embody, relate and connect within these spaces.

Not Yet Here asks the viewer to keep their eyes open to the possible spaces of utopia available to them now. Paradise is lost found and lost again. These artists present the myriad ways utopia can come, grow and change as we navigate our lives.



Epiphyte graphite and toned marble dust gesso on panel 16 x 16 in. | 2025



Hold, Hold, Held graphite and toned marble dust gesso on panel 16 x 16 in. | 2025



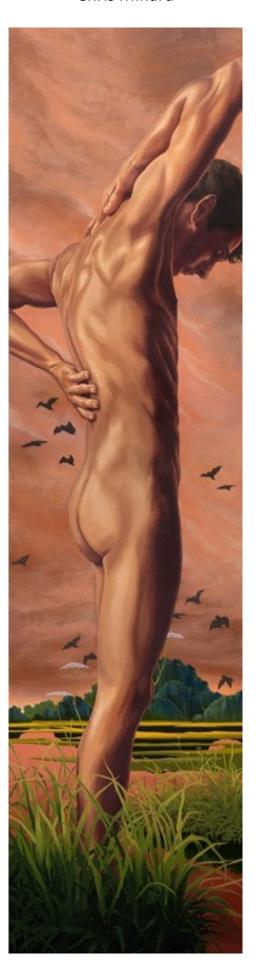
Lituus graphite and toned marble dust gesso on panel 24 x 36 in. | 2025



Swell graphite and toned marble dust gesso on panel 8 x 8 in. | 2025



Dip graphite and toned marble dust gesso on panel 8 x 8 in. | 2025



Nature Boy in a Fen (The Hunting Party) oil on linen 72 x 18 in. | 2023



Aprés Mois, Le Déluge (Lacrimosa in ¾ Time) oil on linen 28 x 36 in. | 2024



House of Butterflies, or the Terminal Beauty oil on linen 20 x 18 in. | 2025



Imagining the Return of Apophis (Why Won't the Stars Align?) oil on linen 48 x 30 in. | 2025



A Stark and Omniscient Gaze (17 Hours in Hollywood) oil on linen 60 x 30 in. | 2023



Yesterday's Utopia (on Ghosts, Dreams, and Joy) oil on linen 60 x 36 in. | 2022



Justin (Forget Your Troubles) oil on linen 75 x 36 in. | 2023



Marti (In the Crimson Glow) acrylic on 300lb black watercolor paper 30 x 20 in. | 2025



A Beckoning Center acrylic on 300lb black watercolor paper 28 x 20 in. | 2025



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