ALMINE RECH

HYPEBEAST

Umar Rashid Presents the Next Chapter of the Frenglish Empire at Almine Rech

By Shawn Ghassemitari, May 2, 2022.



Courtesy of the Artist and Almine Rech

Journey back into Umar Rashid's Frenglish Empire (1648-1880) in a new exhibition of work at Almine Rech. Housed at the gallery's Paris flagship, the show continues the American artist's fictional tale that mixes a range of art historical references with modern-day iconography.

Ancien Regime Change Part Two. En Germinal: Les Printemps de Guerre is set in the year 1796, where the empire has sent commanders on colonial missions to discover new countries to occupy. Typically in the past, Rashid's compositions will take place in the same country to which the work is being exhibited. However, in this latest showcase, the art is depicted on the outer fringes of the Frenglish Empire, such as a frozen tundra where Rashid shows the troops being ravaged by characters such as the Wampa from Star Wars Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back.

By blending disparate art motifs with an array of modern references, Rashid challenges the viewer to ruminate on what is true or false about the throes of history. Ancien Regime Change Part Two. En Germinal: Les Printemps de Guerre is in its final days and will conclude at Almine Rech on May 4.

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