

Almine Rech Gallery Brussels





03.07.2017 > 29.07.2017

International
Art Exhibitions 2017

Genieve Figgis

What we do in the Shadows

Genieve Figgis is a consummate storyteller. Using paint rather than words, her deeply narrative works – often conjuring characters and settings out of the Edwardian age of the Anglo-Irish aristocracy – fit snugly within this long tradition of Irish cultural production.

While it may seem essentialist, if not a political minefield, to overemphasize national identity in critical discussions of Figgis' work, it could be argued that what distinguishes her use of figuration from the slew of contemporary painters is a distinctive translation of the Irish 'blarney' into a pictorial form. A world that is infused with qualities of violence, travesty, affection, complicity, mimicry, subversion and mutual mystification. As such, the tormented apparitions of this burdened past are natural subjects for Genieve Figgis.

2



Opposite page
Las Meninas
(after Velázquez)
2017, Acrylic on canvas
50 x 40 cm

1

Pink Stage
2017, Acrylic on canvas
80 x 100 x 4 cm

2

Castle by Day
2017, Acrylic on canvas
165 x 202 x 3.5 cm

3

Royal Friend Portrait
2017, Acrylic on canvas
60 x 80 x 2 cm

4

Ensor & Friends
2017, Acrylic on canvas
50 x 40 x 4 cm

5

Castle Bed
2017, Acrylic on canvas
40 x 50 cm

All works © Genieve Figgis



4



5

Discovered by famous American artist, Richard Prince, Figgis went from relative obscurity in Dublin to exhibiting in New York, Chicago, Toronto and London, all in the space of three short years.

All works
Courtesy of the Artist and
Almine Rech Gallery

www.alminerech.com

