

Althuis Hofland Fine Arts

Tahmina Negmat
Moscow- Petushki

22 November 2019 - 4 January 2020

(the gallery is closed on regular opening hours on 25, 26, 27 December and January 1st)

“For years I have been obsessed with the idea of painting on red clay. In the preparation for the show, I have been working on a series of terracotta pieces and integrating found objects such as parachutes, sleeping bags, bedsprings into my paintings. As I primarily work with terracotta, the weight became a natural struggle but eventually my conceptual target. Through the weight and the sense of difficulty, inflexibility, and unwillingness to be moved I want the work to become an antagonistic reaction to something that is considered to be convenient, sleek, painted on canvas anything that might be associated to me with a compromise.

With colossal volumes of wax and unforgiving nature of clay, I am sculpting out the main protagonist Venichka, Venya, an alcoholic intellectual from Venedikt Yerofeyev’s poem. He travels by a suburban train from Moscow to Petushki, to visit his beautiful beloved, «The girl, with a braid to ass, with the eyes white like vodka» and his son. Petushki - is a town that is described by the narrator as his cherished utopia. And he inevitably fails to arrive there.”

Tahmina Negmat (Uzbekistan, 1994) lives and works in London (UK). In 2018 she was awarded the Valerie Beston Artists’trust - Prize during her final year at the Royal College of Art in London. Last May the artist had a solo exhibition at Marlborough Fine Art in London.