

Illumination **AT FRIEZE HOUSE SEOUL**

15 OCTOBER - 6 NOVEMBER 2026

*Bringing together four artists living and working in and around New York City, **Illumination** examines how one of art history's most enduring subjects – light and its effects – continues to shape contemporary painting across figuration and abstraction.*

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA - Clubhouse Gallery will present *Illumination*, its first exhibition in Korea, at Frieze House Seoul from October 15 through November 6, 2026. The exhibition features a tightly focused selection of recent works by Alicia Adamerovich, Caleb Hahne Quintana, Piper Bangs, and Julia Jo.

Light has been one of painting's essential subjects and tools for centuries. Renaissance and Baroque artists used chiaroscuro to give bodies volume and drama; Impressionists studied its changing effects; and modern painters used color itself to create luminosity and alter perception. *Illumination* brings together four contemporary approaches to reexamining what light makes visible and how it changes the psychological experience of an image.

Works by **Alicia Adamerovich** move from heavily textured, biomorphic painted surfaces to delicate renderings in pastel. Across this selection, abstracted forms hover between landscapes and objects. Their looping contours and carefully rendered surfaces give them an almost animate presence, as though they possess moods, gestures and personalities of their own, while remaining inanimate forms. Dark cavities, mineral-like surfaces and sudden passages of color make the images feel illuminated from within. Throughout her practice, Adamerovich proposes the painted world as a terrain of the subconscious, treating light as an atmosphere capable of materializing an inner cognitive state.

Piper Bangs gives still-life subjects such as fruit and botanical forms the status of figures. In her works, fleshy forms move between the wild and the domestic, arranged in ways that suggest closeness, awkwardness, comfort and ambivalence without settling into a single story. Drawing on the illusionistic light and material richness found in historical oil painting, Bangs uses contrasting thickness and shadow to make these forms feel psychologically alive, showing how light can transform familiar objects into emotionally charged presences.

Julia Jo uses a vibrant color palette and sweeping calligraphic marks to move between gestural abstraction and the suggestion of figuration. In both large canvases and intimately scaled works, dense fields of shifting color and dynamic brushwork produce fleeting contours as each layer of paint obscures and reconstitutes the image. In her practice, line, color and shadow simultaneously reveal and conceal, making illumination a shifting perceptual encounter rather than a static source of light.

Caleb Hahne Quintana's visual world reveals itself through a painting of two boys caught in a physical encounter that represent two versions of the artist's inner self – one lighter-haired and one darker-haired – locked in a struggle that makes self-division visible. Their contrast gives the painting a visual language of light and dark, but their opposition is psychological rather than moral, with tenderness and defense, vulnerability and strength occupying the same image. Quintana carries similar tension into his equestrian paintings, where black-and-white contrasts give the horse a heightened, almost mythic presence. Together, these works show how light and shadow operate as both formal contrasts and psychological forces, bringing questions of memory, masculinity and inner conflict into view without resolving them.

Across these four practices, illumination emerges through gradation and contrast as much as through a depicted source of light. It shapes not only what appears in an image, but also how forms are perceived, felt and remembered. Figures, objects and abstract forms move between familiarity and ambiguity; gestures and contours emerge and dissolve; and light gives each work its own emotional atmosphere. *Illumination* asks viewers to look slowly and consider how perception changes with time, memory, desire and distance.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

ARTIST NOTES

Alicia Adamerovich (b. 1989, Latrobe, Pennsylvania; lives and works in upstate New York) makes paintings, works on paper, and sculptures that translate emotional states into futuristic natural worlds. Her first solo museum exhibition, *Conundrums*, opened at the San Luis Obispo Museum of Art in 2026. She has also exhibited at Timothy Taylor, London; Nassau County Museum of Art; and the Green Family Art Foundation. Her work is held in the collections of ICA Miami, He Art Museum, and X Museum, among others.

Piper Bangs (b. 2002, San Antonio, Texas; lives and works in New York City) is known for paintings and works on paper in which fleshy fruit and botanical forms behave as figures. She was included in *Floating World: Bed, Bath, Bus* at Sehwa Museum of Art, Seoul, in 2025. Her work has also been presented at HdM, Beijing, Art Basel Hong Kong, and Art Basel Miami Beach. Her work is held in the collections of Denver Art Museum and Sehwa Museum of Art, among others.

Julia Jo (b. 1991, Seoul; lives and works in New York City) creates vibrant oil paintings that move between abstraction and figuration. Her work was featured in the Maier Museum of Art's 2025-26 exhibition *The Audacity of Paint*, and she has exhibited at Charles Moffett, New York and Jessica Silverman, San Francisco. Her paintings are held in the permanent collections of the High Museum of Art, ICA Miami, and Smith College Museum of Art, among others.

Caleb Hahne Quintana (b. 1993, Denver; lives and works in New York City) draws on his Mexican heritage and American Southwest upbringing to explore memory, masculinity, migration, and intimacy. His work has been exhibited at Denver Art Museum, ICA Miami, and Norton Museum of Art, and is held in the collections of Denver Art Museum, High Museum of Art, ICA Miami, and X Museum, among others.

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Illumination brings together recent works by the four participating artists. Final artwork titles and the complete checklist will be released separately.

ABOUT CLUBHOUSE GALLERY

Clubhouse Gallery is a Wellington, Florida contemporary art space and cultural platform connecting South Florida, New York, and the wider international art world. Its program brings leading, internationally recognized artists into dialogue with closely watched voices of a new generation. Artists presented by Clubhouse have included Dabin Ahn, Diana Al-Hadid, Farah Atassi, Deborah Butterfield, Melike Kara, Liza Lou, Anna Park, and Sterling Ruby. Recent institutional placements facilitated through the program have included works entering Pérez Art Museum Miami, Rose Art Museum (Waltham, Massachusetts), High Museum of Art (Atlanta), Boca Raton Museum of Art, and The Bronx Museum. *Illumination* marks the gallery's first exhibition in Korea.

www.clubhouse.art

VISIT

Frieze House Seoul

17 Dongho-ro 15-gil, Jung-gu
Seoul 04598, South Korea
Tuesday-Saturday, 11am-6pm
Free admission; no reservation required

PRESS CONTACT

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