

MDM
GALLERY



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Untitled
2012
acrylic on canvas
108 x 102 cm

Pedro Varela Nouvelles Indes

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Communiqué de presse

Exposition : 16.11.2013 » 15.01.2014
vernissage : samedi 16.11.2013 - 17:00 » 20:00
Pedro Varela né en 1981 à Rio de Janeiro, Brésil
Vit et travaille à Petropolis, Brésil

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MdM Gallery is pleased to present Nouvelles Indes, the first European solo exhibition of Brazilian artist Pedro Varela. The title chosen refers to a series of Gobelin tapestries depicting the lush flora and fauna of the New World. Unlike the historical tapestries, Varela's drawings and paintings are not meant to be actual registers of this exotic world, but rather an idealized vision partaking in a psychedelic tropicalism constructed through baroque still-life motifs and fairy tale imagery.

The viewer's expectation to indulge in a tropical fantasy is thwarted by the recurring motif of the vanitas, a memento mori aptly placed amidst the abundance of nature, and the use of the elusive pigment blue which makes the dream of an exotic idyll appear remote and distant.

A unique site-specific drawing on the window front of the project space will allow to reverse the paradigm of the tropical fantasy by transporting day-to-day Parisian life into Varela's tableau.

Pedro Varela was born in Rio de Janeiro in 1981 and currently lives and works in Petropolis. He studied painting at the Parque Lage School of Visual Arts and received a degree in printmaking from the Fine Arts School (UFRJ). His work has been extensively shown in institutions in Brazil and abroad. Recent exhibitions include: Tropical, Museu de Arte Moderna, Rio de Janeiro (2012), Espelho Refletido, Centro Cultural Hélio Oiticica, Rio de Janeiro (2012) and Gigante por la Propria Naturaleza and Instituto Valenciano de Arte Moderno, Valencia, Spain (2011).