

VICTORIA CANTONS
THE HOUR BEFORE SUNRISE
LA HORA BRUJA



TUBE GALLERY

21 MARCH
23 MAY

PRESS RELEASE

Tube Gallery is pleased to present *The Hour Before Sunrise / La Hora Bruja*, Victoria Cantons first's solo exhibition in Spain, curated by Christian Dominguez.

There is a moment just before dawn when the night still dominates, yet light begins to emerge, a threshold between sleep and wakefulness, transition and possibility. This period of mystery and revelation serves as the inspiration for Victoria Cantons' exhibition *The Hour Before Sunrise / La Hora Bruja*.

The exhibition features a compelling series of paintings, a neon installation, and a video, showcasing Cantons' ability to weave together painting, language, and memory. Her work resonates on both personal and collective levels, drawing from a wide spectrum of artistic and historical influences, from the Renaissance and Baroque to Abstract Expressionism and Conceptual Art. Deeply rooted in materiality, texture, and color, her painting process builds in layers, each stroke leaving a trace of time on the canvas. Working with oil, acrylic, gold leaf, oil stick, graphite, and enamel, she explores the tension between fragility and strength.

Unfolding as an emotional landscape, the exhibition invites multiple points of entry for the viewer:

Text-based works, such as *Six Words* (Hope, Faith, Love, Trust, Dream, Believe) (2023) and *Untitled* (Words to Live By) (2025), act as conceptual anchors, reflecting how language shapes our perception of the world and ourselves.

Portraits, including *One Day I Will Laugh About This* (Transgender Woman) (2022) and *Transgender Woman No.3* (2021), depict figures in transformation—emerging, dissolving, and asserting their presence on canvas and beyond.

Floral and still-life works, such as *Untitled* (Breathe Hope) (2023) and *Untitled* (What Matters on the Small Scale of the Human Heart?) (2023), explore the duality of vitality and decay, turning the rose into a symbol of persistence and vulnerability.

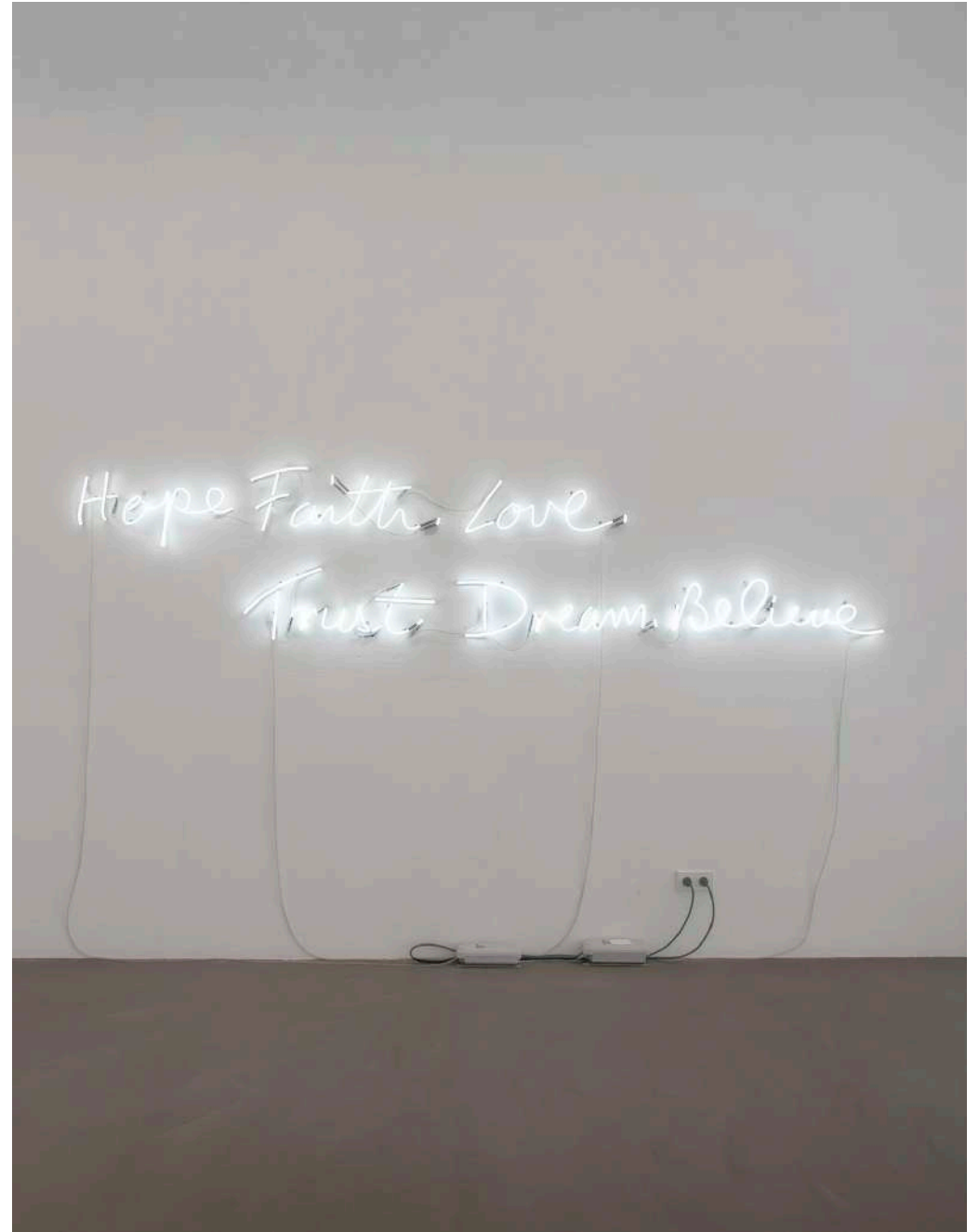
Video, particularly *Clinging to My Own Beliefs / Belly Button Fuzz* (2017), introduces a temporal dimension, where moving images complement the still intensity of painting and text.

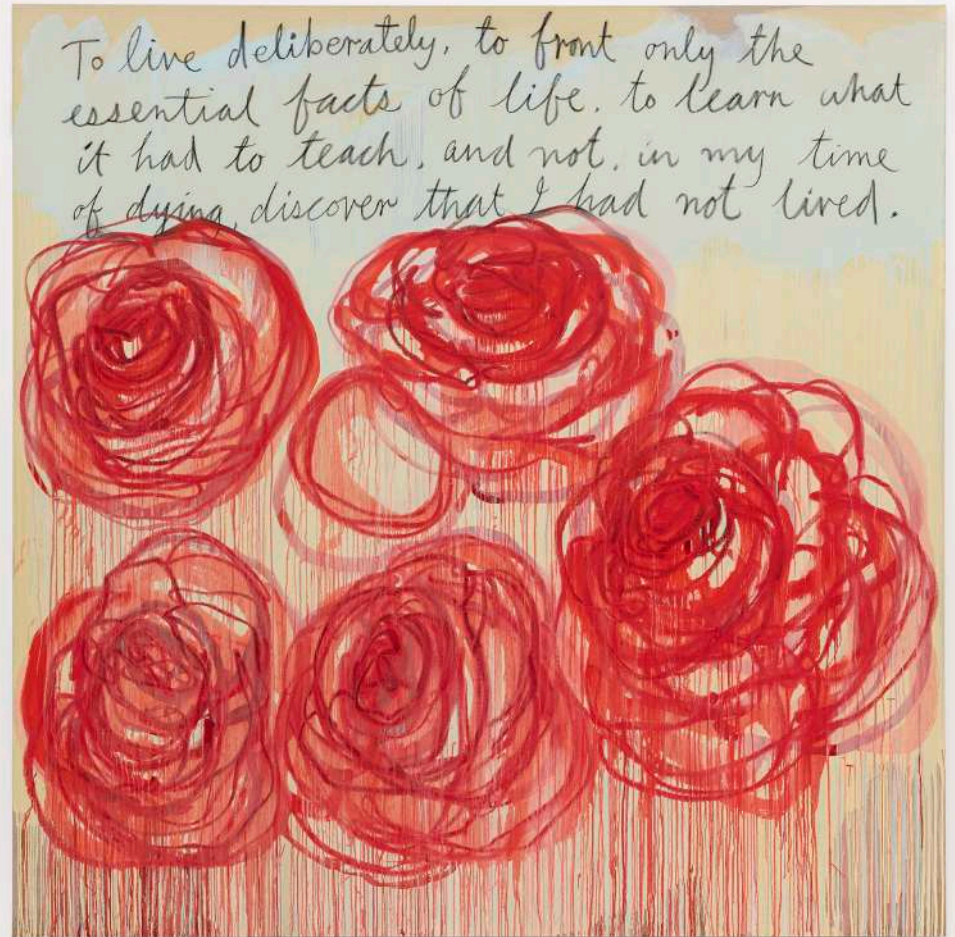
Together, these works construct a space of ambiguity and contemplation, inviting viewers to engage deeply with themes of transformation, identity, and perception.





Victoria Cantons
Six words (hope, faith, love, trust, dream,
believe), 2023
Hand made neon glass in warm/neutral white
36.8 x 500 cm



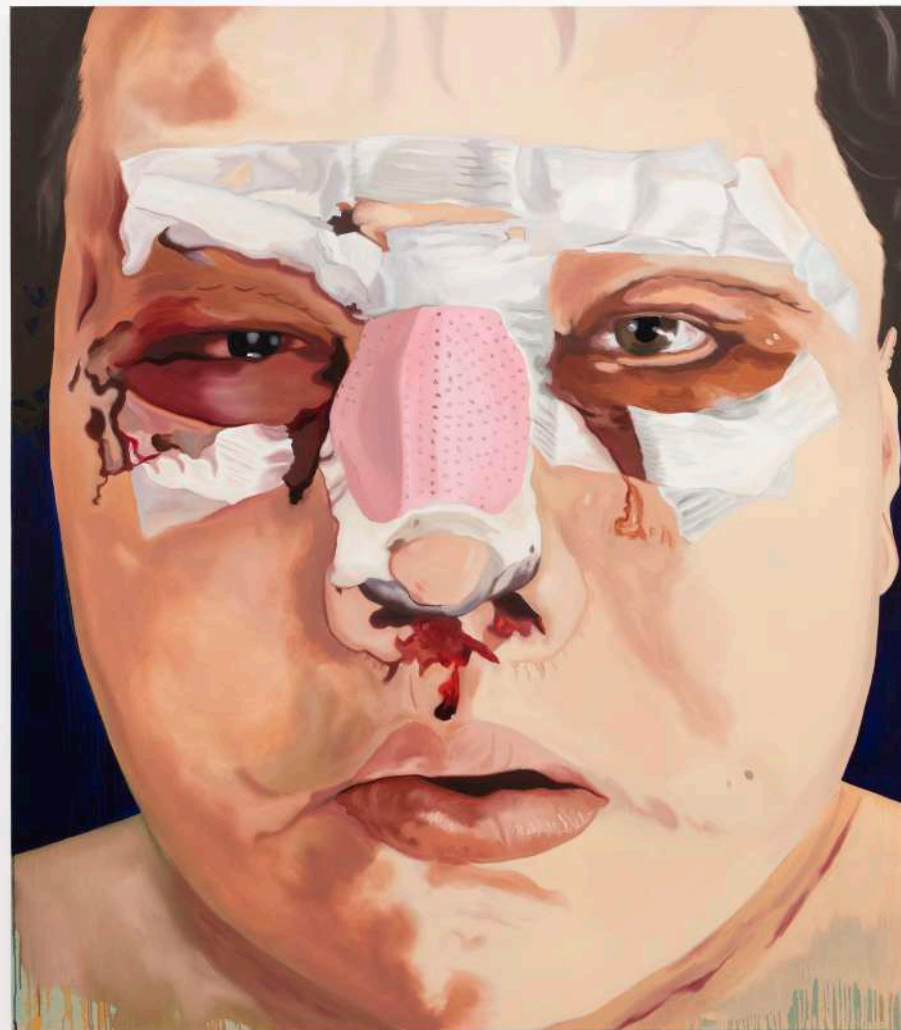


Victoria Cantons
Untitled (song), 2023
Pastel, oil stick and oil on linen
200 x 200 cm

Victoria Cantons
Transgender Woman No.3, 2021
Oil on linen
170 x 150 cm



Victoria Cantons
Untitled (Woman), 2022
Oil on linen
170 x 150 cm



Victoria Cantons
One day I will laugh about this
(transgender woman), 2022
Oil on linen
170 x 150 cm





Victoria Cantons
Untitled (What matters on the small scale
of the human heart?), 2023
Oil stick and oil on linen
200 x 95 cm



Victoria Cantons
Untitled (breathe hope), 2023
Pastel and oil on linen
200 x 105 cm



Victoria Cantons
Untitled (Father and Mother / Adam and Eve), 2024
Beeswax, charcoal, crayon, oil and oil [paint
stick] on linen
76.2 x 55.6 cm



Victoria Cantons
Untitled (Mother and Father / Eve and Adam), 2024
Beeswax, charcoal, crayon, oil and oil [paint
stick] on linen
76.2 x 50.6 cm



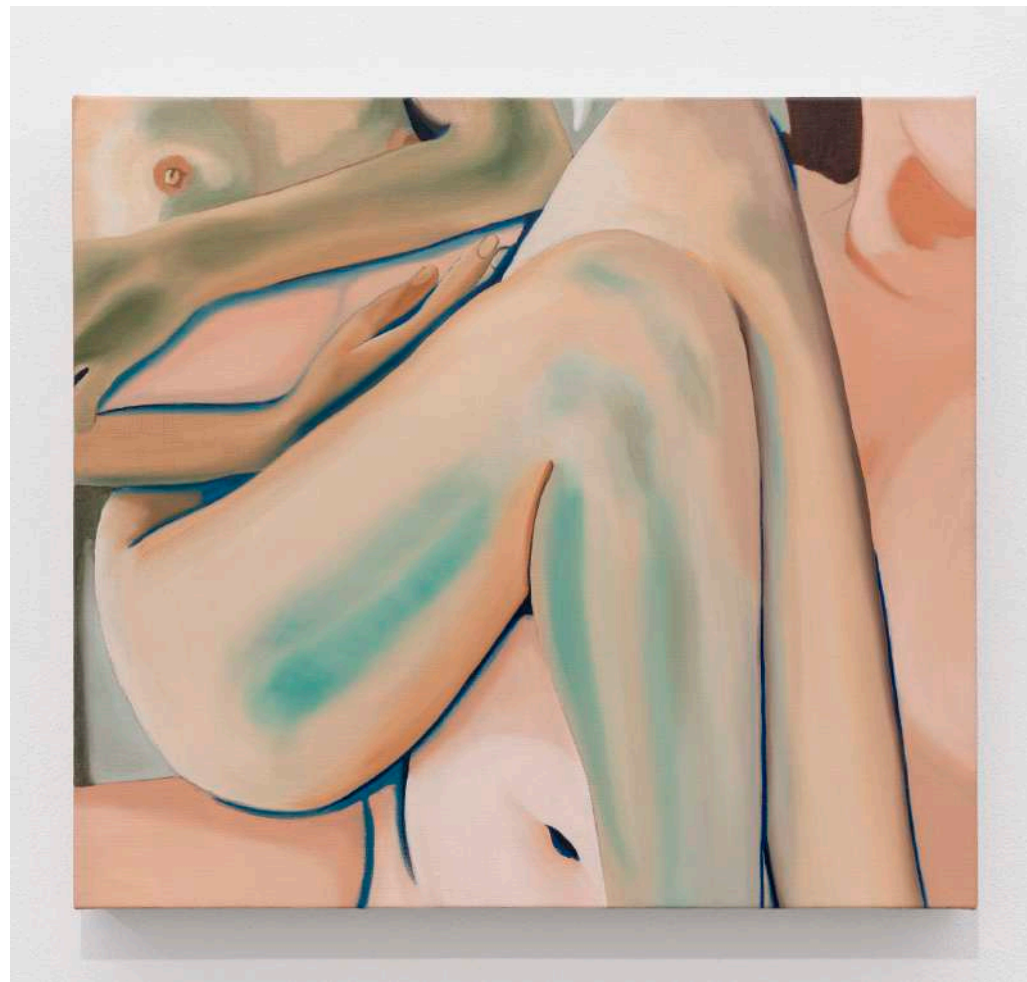


Victoria Cantons
Untitled (Like good fruit, the balance of life lies
between ripe and ruin), 2023
Oil on linen
70 x 80 cm



Victoria Cantons
The want to cast a shadow, 2023
Oil, oil stick, 22.5k gold and enamel
on linen 50 x 45 x 3.7 cm





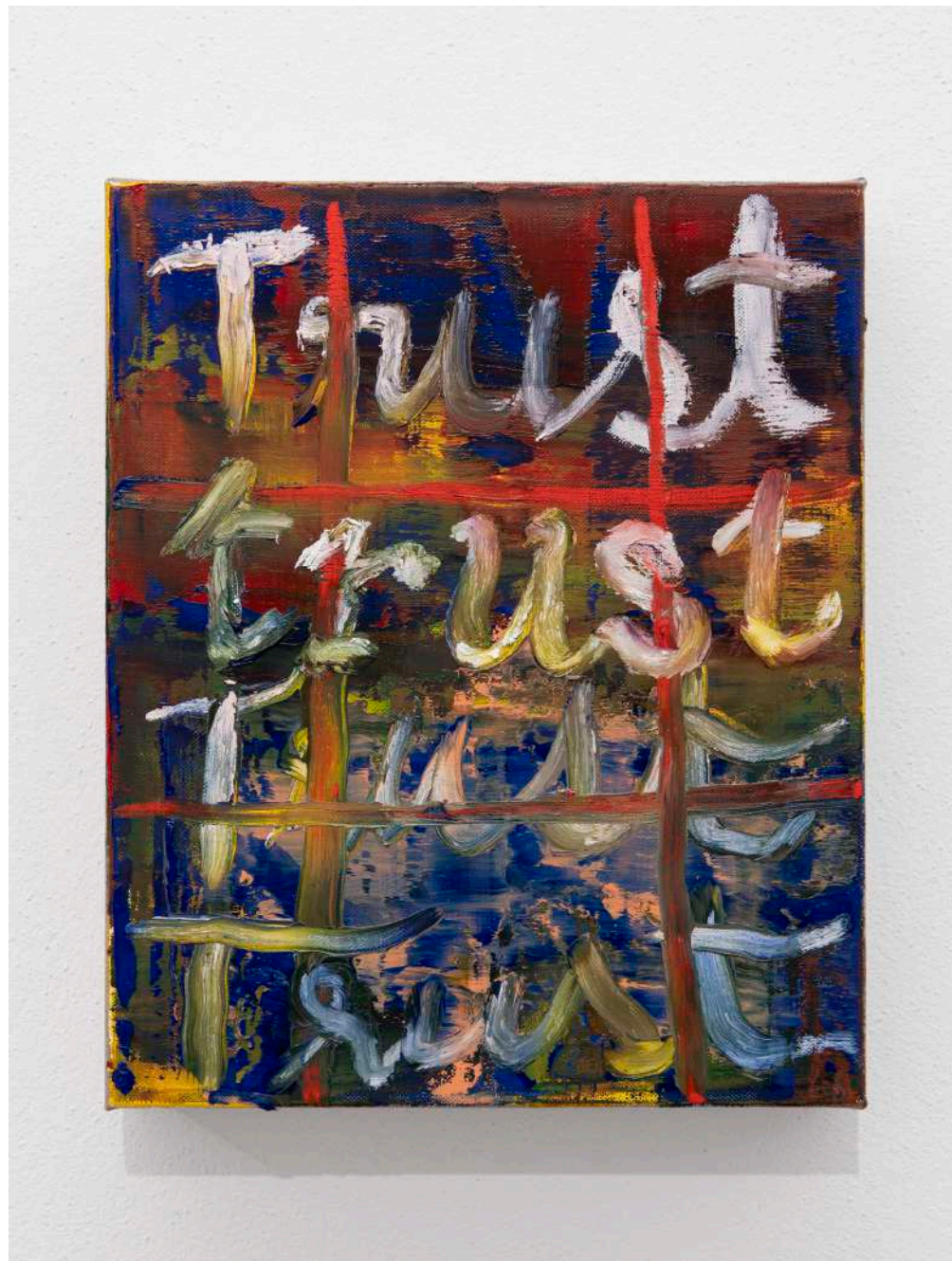
Victoria Cantons
Untitled (A way to avoid the mess one makes
of one's life), 2023
Oil on linen
45 x 50 cm

Victoria Cantons
Untitled (Don't worry, the stars will come out
and the sun will shine) [Caravaggio], 2024
Oil on linen
25.4 x 20.3 cm



Victoria Cantons
Untitled (If I changed to be the way
you say you want me, I'd only be the
way I've always wanted to), 2025
Oil on linen
25.4 x 20.3 cm





Victoria Cantons
Untitled (Words to live by), 2025
Oil on linen
25.4 x 20.3 cm





Victoria Cantons
Clinging To My Own Beliefs / Belly Button
Fuzz, 2017 single-channel HD video, colour
and sound (2 channel mono)
4m 7s



Victoria Cantons (b.1969, London, UK) is a London-based conceptual artist whose work spans painting, photography, poetry, neon, performance and video. Her practice operates at the intersection of connecting and disconnecting psychological boundaries in our relationships with ourselves and others, navigating the fluidity between identity, perception, and memory.

Raised in a multicultural environment with a background spanning science, philosophy, and literature, Cantons' practice is shaped by an ongoing exploration of identity, perception, and memory. Her journey, informed by different geographies and cultural contexts, transforms personal experience into a lens through which the universal is explored.

Highlights of recent exhibitions include "There Are Other Skies", Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art (SMoCA), Arizona (2025, group); "Art Icon 2025", Phillips & Whitechapel Gallery, London (2025, fundraiser); "Present Tense", Hauser & Wirth (2024, group); "If Only, Time Were Ours To Spend, Again", Kunstverein Dresden (2023, solo); "What Birds Plunge Through Is Not The Intimate Space", Guts Gallery (2023, solo); "Nothing is Absolute", Flowers Gallery, London (2023, solo).

Upcoming exhibitions include: "A Guide For How To Remove Steps From Thought To Action", Niru Ratman Gallery, London (2025, solo); "Queer Britain, London (2025, group); "Build it, Beat it", Christie's London (2025, group fundraiser); Mimosa House (2026, solo).

TUBE GALLERY

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TUBE GALLERY

Carrer Nicolau de Pacs, 25
Palma De Mallorca, Spain

+34 660 698 599

info@tubecontemporary.com
www.tubecontemporary.com
@tube__gallery

Photos: Natasha Lebedeva