

Varda Caivano ***The Density of the Actions***

February 22 – April 19, 2015

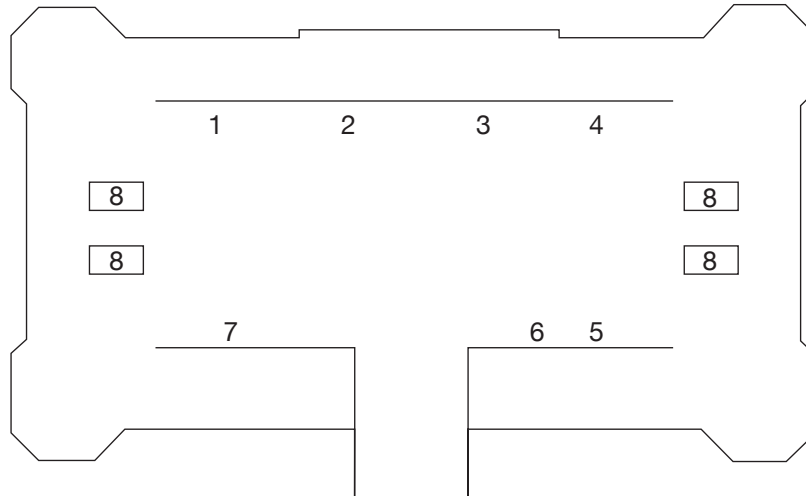
The Density of the Actions is Varda Caivano's first solo exhibition in the United States, featuring new paintings and drawings by the London-based artist.

Caivano's approach to her work is intuitive, playful, and open-ended. She develops several paintings simultaneously in the studio, creating individual works that, when displayed together, contribute distinct phrases to a dynamic whole. While decidedly non-figurative, Caivano's paintings summon the viewer to linger as depth and forms emerge. They particularly evoke a sense of place, sometimes recalling landscapes, though more frequently alluding to mental spaces and otherworldly realms. At the same time, they invite close attention to the canvases' physical properties—their modest size, the range of brush strokes, or the way two colors sit next to each other. Caivano's process is almost sculptural in the way she manipulates the materials: Layers of paint are applied, then rubbed, scratched, and reworked.

For this Renaissance Society presentation, Caivano and curator Solveig Øvstebø have assembled a group of the artist's recent works that incorporate drawing more directly into the paintings, representing a new direction in her practice. Whereas her previous paintings have been dense in color and texture, here Caivano works with a muted, almost monochromatic palette and sparser markings. The resulting compositions are lighter in tone, more suggestive of an elusive narrative than vivid emotion.

An accompanying catalogue will be published this spring, featuring full-color documentation of the installation, and critical reflections on Caivano's practice by Terry R. Myers, Barry Schwabsky and Paula van den Bosch.

Varda Caivano (born 1971, Argentina) lives and works in London, where she received an MA from the Royal College of Art in 2004. She has had solo exhibitions at Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo (2013 and 2009), Victoria Miro Gallery, London (2011), Chisenhale Gallery, London (2007), and Kunstverein Freiburg (2006). Her work has recently been included in group exhibitions such as *The Encyclopedic Palace*, 55th International Art Exhibition at the Venice Biennale (2013), *Artists' Artists*, CentrePasquArt, Biel Switzerland (2013), and *Gwangju Biennial*, Korea (2012). Caivano was the recipient of the Abbey Award from the British School at Rome in 2011, and was nominated for the Max Mara Art Prize for Women in 2011.



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| 1. | Untitled, 2014 acrylic and charcoal on canvas 180 x 62cm | 5. | Untitled, 2014 acrylic and charcoal on canvas 112 x 66cm |
| 2. | Untitled, 2014 acrylic and charcoal on canvas 105 x 70cm | 6. | Untitled, 2014 acrylic and charcoal on canvas 118.8 x 64cm |
| 3. | Untitled, 2014 acrylic and charcoal on canvas 112 x 67cm | 7. | Untitled, 2015 acrylic, charcoal and oil on canvas 120 x 180cm |
| 4. | Untitled, 2014 acrylic and charcoal on canvas 180 x 65cm | 8. | Untitled, 2014-15 mixed media dimensions variable |

All works are presented courtesy the artist; Victoria Miro, London; and Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo.

The exhibition is produced by the Renaissance Society.

Please join us for a free gallery walk-through:

- **Wednesday, March 18, 6pm with Solveig Øvstebø**, the Renaissance Society's Executive Director and Chief Curator
- **Saturday, April 11, 12pm with Terry R. Myers**, Professor and Chair of Painting and Drawing at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and contributor to Varda Caivano's forthcoming catalogue