

Reopened Galleries Offer Not To Be Missed Solo Shows

JULY 31, 2020 | PAUL LASTER

Alice Tippit: Pallid Carrier

Patron, Chicago

June 27 – August 29, 2020

A mid-career, Chicago-based artist who's been gaining traction internationally over the past five years for her graphic depictions of figurative subjects as silhouetted, flatly-colored forms, Alice Tippit makes her Patron gallery debut with eleven new, small-scale oil paintings and watercolors that whimsically transform human body parts and everyday objects into ambiguous signs and symbols.

The paintings *Brood*, *Wife*, and *Share* erotically capture the female figure in monochromatic shapes that convey multiple meanings. Likewise, the three-colored canvases *Delete* and *Glance* imbue still life objects with stylish facial forms. Continuing with the visual riddles, *Dry* graphically twists a red-tipped finger into a solar eclipse and *Stuck* wedges the monochromatic brown field of the painting into its simulated brick wall, while also hinting at the depiction of buttocks and breasts.

Tippit's watercolors on paper differ somewhat from the oils in show in that they include words and letters that turn them into puns. *Spoke* presents the letter O in the middle of a pink, O-shaped body growing out of a kneeling leg and *Beat* offers a pair of red lips puckered like a throbbing heart with the words "nurse" and "curse" floating above and below in a seemingly reversible form. Elusive in meaning, Tippit's playful art makes you ponder what it is that you are observing when you are precisely in the middle of the act of seeing.



Alice Tippit, *Dry*, 2020.