



CELINE ALI  
*Moments of Being*

JD MALAT  
GALLERY

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*I've always been grounded in woman's existence as I've been raised mainly by women. My mother, my sister, my grandmother, and my aunt, I have always admired them so much and I was always absorbed by observing their typologies, their gestures, and their context.*

**– Celine Ali**

# *Moments of Being*

JD Malat Gallery is pleased to present *Moments of Being*, the first solo exhibition by London-based artist Celine Ali (b.1997). On display at the gallery from May 10 to June 3, the exhibition invites viewers to explore the concept of interiority in relation to domestic spaces and their association with the feminine. Born and raised in Romania but of Turkish ethnicity, Celine's childhood was spent navigating between two cultures. The duality of her cultural identification helped shape her unique perspective and is reflected in her work's focus on the multiplicity of identity.

Growing up in a female-dominated environment Celine became inspired by the fragility and strength displayed by the women around her. Both the breadth and the universality of the female experience serve as inspiration for Celine's artistic practice. Depicting subjects that range from letter writing and dining, to solitary drinking and fortune-telling, Celine seeks to engage viewers in the ideas surrounding woman's existence in the canon of art history, as well as expand upon the discourse surrounding gender identity, intimacy, beauty ideals, sexuality, and ambiguous relationships.

*Moments of Being* presents a deeply moving narrative exploring the connection between domestic settings and a woman's inner world. The rich visual narratives revolve around concepts of loneliness, failed love, longing, insecurities, self-contemplation, and desire. In this new series, the canvas acts as a physical space where emotions can be collected and shared with the viewer, creating a profoundly personal experience.

Celine's work challenges domestic space's association with both femininity and confinement as she portrays them as safe and cosy places where women undress their vulnerabilities to reveal their interiority. Fascinated by the concept of inner beings, Celine defines interiority as *the space where all conscious experience unfolds, from awareness to memory and imagination*. By representing domestic interiors as spaces for reflection, celebration, and intimacy, Celine poses a conversation around domestic environments as microcosms of a wider social and cultural experience.

Incorporating cubist influence and surrealist aesthetics into her work Celine presents vibrant visual narratives mixing representational elements with the abstract. Her use of bold colours and particular usage of greens to provide both a warming and cooling effect, adding to the dynamism of her work. Echoing her signature style, Celine's new works depict faceless figures serving to create ambiguous identities and urging viewers to shape their own narratives. Further facilitating conversations around identity and challenging the restrictive boundaries of gender binaries.

Fascinated by the contrast between fragility and the innate power of human nature, Celine seeks to evoke the essence of fragility through the lens of simultaneous vulnerability and strength. By depicting different facets of femininity, Celine's work skilfully confronts the limitations inflicted on women by cultural paradigms of gender and ideals. Deeply moving and relatable JD Malat is delighted to present Celine Ali's powerfully enchanting works in its London gallery space.



*Rendez-Vous, 2023*

Oil on linen  
47 1/4 x 47 1/4 in  
120 x 120 cm



*The Fortune Teller, 2023*

Oil on canvas  
51 1/8 x 47 1/4 in  
130 x 120 cm





*Love Letter, 2023*

Oil on linen  
47 1/4 x 55 1/8 in  
120 x 140 cm



*At the Mirror, 2023*

Oil on canvas  
55 1/8 x 39 3/8 in  
140 x 100 cm





*Woman and the Swan, 2023*

Oil on canvas  
59 x 47 1/4 in  
150 x 120 cm



*Invited to Dinner, 2023*

Oil on canvas  
55 1/8 x 78 3/4 in  
140 x 200 cm





*Meet me at the bar, 2022*

Oil on canvas  
49 1/4 x 34 1/4 in  
125 x 87 cm



*The Chess Players, 2023*

Oil on canvas  
59 x 47 1/4 in  
150 x 120 cm





*On the Edge, 2023*

Oil on canvas  
47 1/4 x 47 1/4 in  
120 x 120 cm

## Celine Ali CV

b. 1997 - Constanta, Romania

Lives and works in London, United Kingdom.

### Education:

2021 MFA Fine Arts, London Metropolitan University, London, United Kingdom

2016 - 2019 BA Honours in Interior Design, Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom

### Solo Exhibitions:

2014 *Minarets in the sky of Dobrogea*, Turkish Cultural Institute 'Yunus Emre', Constanta

2013 *Art for everyone*, Sensorial Project, addressing particularly to those with visual impairments, National Museum of Art, Constanta, Romania

2009 *Chromatic Reflections*, County Library loan N. Roman, Constanta, Romania

### Group Exhibitions:

2022 *Arms Around the Child*, Charity Auction at Christie's

2022 *Art on Postcard*, Summer Auction

2022 *Eternal Feminine | Eternal Change*, Florence Biennale', Fortezza da Basso, Florence, Italy

2022 *The Other Art Fair London*, The Old Truman Brewery, London, United Kingdom

2021 *Ubiquity and Fluidity*, The Holy Art Gallery, London, United Kingdom

2021 *Through Her Eyes*, Online Exhibition

2018 *Chromatic Reflections*, County Library loan N. Roman, Constanta, Romania

2018 *Art for everyone*, Sensorial Project, National Museum of Art, Constanta, Romania

2015 *9th Florence Biennale, Ethics DNA of Art*, Fortezza da Basso, Italy

2012 *Autumn Exhibition*, Real Academia de Bellas Artes de Santa Isabel de Hungria Sevilla, Spain

2011 *Biennale of Chianciano, Leonard Award, Young Artist*, Chianciano Art Museum, Italy

### Awards:

2011 *'Leonardo Award, Young Artist'*, Biennale of Chianciano, Chianciano Art Museum, Italy

### **Acknowledgments**

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