

GEARY

Ayse Wilson

Scouts

April 28 – May 28, 2016

Opening Reception Thursday April 28, 6 – 8 PM

Geary Contemporary is excited to present *Scouts*, a solo exhibition of new paintings by Ayse Wilson. *Scouts* marks Wilson's second solo exhibition with Geary Contemporary and there will be opening with a reception for the artist Thursday, April 28 from 6 – 8 PM.

Marrying the sinister and the innocent, Wilson's paintings of children address the "cute" (read "unsettling") aesthetics of youth. As Peter Benson Miller writes, "... Wilson's children are expressionless ciphers, wide-eyed wolves in sheep's clothing." Using visual cues from cartoons and toys, Wilson imbues doll-like imagery with pathos typical of renaissance painting, creating scenes that blend and upend expectations of historical painting.

In addition to elaborating Wilson's ongoing exploration of child iconography, *Scouts* introduces a new trajectory in the form of larger than life images of bath toys. By focusing her lens on the objects of children, Wilson reminds the audience of the carnal underpinnings of ostensibly pure objects. As Rob Goyanes describes, "Wilson's paintings retain an un-ironic cheer, a cartoon like-state somewhere between realism and fantasy, that uncanny zone that colors the majority of life."

Ayse Wilson (b. 1970) is a Turkish-American artist who lives and works in New York. She is represented by PG Art Gallery in Istanbul as well as Geary Contemporary. Wilson has studied painting in Florence and in 2004 received her MFA from the New York Academy of Art. Wilson has exhibited her work internationally in both Turkey and New York.

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