

ANGLESGALLERY

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Having Drunk the Tainted Coffee, C is Seized with an Inexplicable Dizziness, Panic, and Confusion., 2011

Delia Brown

Felicity & Caprice

a narrative cycle of paintings based on Claude Chabrol's film Les Biches

February 25 - April 7, 2012

Reception for the Artist: Saturday, February 25, 6 - 8 PM

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Angles Gallery is pleased to present, *Felicity & Caprice*, an exhibition of new works by Los Angeles artist Delia Brown. This is Brown's first solo exhibition with Angles Gallery. The forthcoming exhibition will open with a public reception for the artist on Saturday, February 25, 2012, 6-8 PM.

Felicity & Caprice is a narrative cycle of paintings based on the 1968 film, *Les Biches*, by Claude Chabrol. This series continues the artist's ongoing allegorical engagement with social issues (often with specific, art world implications). Depictions of wealth and comfort, presented in stark contrast to creativity and freedom, have long been a central concern in her work. In recent years, this has been exemplified by her contributions to genre painting, as well as video and performance, whereby the artist employs role-playing, fantasy, and melodrama in scenes of sexual situations, violence, and conversation over cocktails. Evocative of 19th century figures such as Hogarth, Sargent, and Cassatt, Brown's creative illumination of the artist/patron dichotomy updates and expands timeless themes of exclusion, desire, and tragedy.

Brown's medium is oil on board, and on linen, and she works in a diminutive scale indicative of classical portraiture in its depictions of wealth, power, and privilege. The gracefully staged scenes deftly contain grudges and resentments—the love triangle, seduction, and betrayal. Economies of scale, in contradiction to the grand portraits of a bygone era, use the treatment of space to amplify the artist's skillful prowess as a figurative (and landscape, and interior) painter. Created over the course of years, Brown meticulously staged chance meetings, glamorous parties, and violent intimacies, to jarring affect. Discreet art historical references blend seamlessly with morality tales. Brown is fearless in her interpretation of the bohemian artist and the privileged, leisure class, bent on acquisition and dominion.

The main characters were played by Delia Brown (Caprice), actress Hollis Witherspoon (Felicity) and bookseller/art dealer John McWhinnie (Paul), who tragically passed away very recently.

Delia Brown's work has been included in solo and group exhibitions, and is included in the collections at venues including Albright Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York; Kettle's Yard, University of Cambridge, England; Seattle Art Museum; Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego; John Michael Kohler Art Center, Sheboygan, Wisconsin; Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive, University of California, Berkeley; D'Amelio Terras, New York City; Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles; Baldwin Gallery, Aspen; Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Paris; and Il Capricorno, Venice, among others. Brown studied at University of California, Santa Cruz (BA), and University of California, Los Angeles (MFA). She lives and works in Los Angeles, California.

ANGLES GALLERY is located at 2754 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90034. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 AM to 6 PM.