

DENK

ANNA FREEMAN BENTLEY *SECOND HOME*

EXHIBITION DATES:

November 9 - December 28, 2019

OPENING RECEPTION: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2019 6-8 PM



(Los Angeles, CA) - DENK GALLERY is pleased to present *Second Home*; the gallery's first solo exhibition of works by London-based artist **Anna Freeman Bentley**. For this exhibition Freeman Bentley presents a series of paintings that explore the spaces of private members clubs and their visual identities.

Members clubs can be perceived as a symbol of wealth and exclusivity to outsiders, yet to insiders the club represents a home away from home. The way that these places are decorated and filled with ornaments speaks of personal history, but the commodity of membership is de-personalising.

Freeman Bentley seeks out these interiors, working hard to get permission to gain access as it is important to the work that she has experienced the spaces physically. Taking photographs the composition of her images begins through the eye of the camera lens. In the studio these photographs act as starting points and the processes of sketching, preparatory works, underpainting and painting act as steps beyond the photograph into a painterly realm that explores things that the camera does not see: the meaning, atmosphere and tension of these interiors and how they relate to a more internalized, psychological space of longing.

In all of Freeman Bentley's work, she seeks to capture the complex dynamics, atmospheres, and emotional responses that different places engender. By depicting spaces that display an obvious lack or where a change of function has taken place, her paintings evoke a longing that may be personal or universal; a deep human desire for permanence in a world that shows signs of decay and wear.

image credit: **Anna Freeman Bentley, *Outlook***, 2017. Oil and acrylic on board 113 x 131cm / 44.4 x 51.5 inches

ABOUT ANNA FREEMAN BENTLEY

Anna Freeman Bentley is a visual artist living and working in London.

Freeman Bentley studied in London receiving her BA from Chelsea College of Art and Design in 2004 after completing an Erasmus Exchange at the Kunsthochschule Weissenhof, Berlin in 2003. In 2010, she received an MFA in Painting from the Royal College of Art in London. She has exhibited internationally in Germany, South Korea, the Czech Republic, the USA and the UK.

She was the winner of the Artist in Restaurant Award and Residency at Michelin-starred restaurant Pied a Terre in London in 2012 and has recently taken part in the Palazzo Monti Residency in Brescia. She has also been a recipient of The Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation Grant in 2019 and 2017.

Her work has recently been added to the Soho House permanent collection and is currently on show in Soho Houses in Barcelona and Los Angeles. Other collections include the Hotel Crillon collection, Paris; Saatchi Collection, London; the Hogan Lovells Collection, London and the Ahmanson Collection, California.

ABOUT DENK GALLERY

DENK is a contemporary art gallery founded in 2017 in Downtown Los Angeles' thriving arts district. The Gallery presents a diverse program of local and international contemporary artists working across a variety of mediums, including sculpture, installation, painting, photography, works on paper, and interdisciplinary media. The gallery curates engaging exhibitions by artists who are creating relevant, substantive, experimental, or timely work. DENK Gallery fosters a generative curatorial space by providing an adaptable venue that allows artists to develop their concepts and have them realized.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT GALLERY DIRECTOR CARL BERG AT

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