

# Downs & Ross

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96 Bowery, 2nd Floor, New York NY 10013

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## *In Defense of Secrets*

June 22 - August 05, 2022

HOU ZICHAO  
PRISCILLA JEONG  
LI HEI DI  
PAULINE SHAW

"Voluntary transparency serves voluntary servitude."

– Anne Dufourmantelle, from *In Defense of Secrets*, 2015 (Trans: Lindsay Turner, 2021).

Laius, lying with the orchids,  
inlets lesions – sagittal, the #E34234 hex of the Nabis;  
below, the sky is flawed.  
Tell me, just then, of the retrenchment of Zhou Xun,  
while the grey-green grass, thin and awash in its scent,  
fakes its long, provincial axioms again.

Hou Zichao (b. China, 1988) lives and works in Beijing. Solo exhibitions include: "Child in the Woods," Spurs Gallery, Beijing (2022); "FoodFood: Hou Zichao & Hilary Pecis," (duo exhibition), Spurs Gallery, ART021, Shanghai (2021); "Everlasting," Downs & Ross, New York (2021); "No Time for Romance," Mine Project, Hong Kong (2020); "Light Breaks Where No Sun Shines," Boers-Li Gallery, Beijing (2019); "Foundation," Aoma, YT Creative Media, Beijing (2018); "Ray. Stone. Wave," Aura Gallery, Shanghai (2017). Hou Zichao's works and projects have been included in group exhibitions including: "The Glass Bead Game," Mammoth Gallery, London (2021); "Clean," Spurs Gallery, Beijing (2020); "Love Love Love: Intimate," Today Art Museum, Beijing (2018); "Elite Young Artists Program," Rightview Art Museum & Guan Shanyue Art Museum, Beijing & Shenzhen (2016), among others. The artist completed his BA Honors degree from Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design, London, in 2013, and earned his Master's degree from Chelsea College of Art & Design, London, in 2014.

Priscilla Jeong (b. 1990 in Bryan, TX) is an artist based in New York. Jeong earned an MFA from Columbia University in 2021. She is a recipient of the 2021 Andrew Fisher Fellowship and the Hayman Visual Arts Gift. Selected solo exhibitions include "¿Habla Turista?," Ryan Lee Gallery, New York (2019) and "Lash Blast x 2% Flourish," Interstate Projects, New York (2016). Jeong has also participated in a number of recent group exhibitions, including: "In Defense of Secrets," Downs & Ross, New York (2022); "The Q," On Ground Gallery, Seoul (2020); "TEASE," Columbia University, New York (2019); "Crockpot Crosswalk," Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA (2018); and "ULO," Interstate Projects, New York (2015).

Li Hei Di (b. 1997, Shenyang) lives and works in London. Exhibitions include: "In Defense of Secrets," Downs & Ross, New York (2022); "Phantasmata," Public Gallery, London (2022); "Self-Dismiss," Gallery Vacancy, Shanghai (2022); "A/D D/A," Zérui, London (2022); "4 Solos," Linseed Projects, Shanghai (2021); and "The Glass Bead Game," Mammoth, London (2021). She was the recipient of the Distinguished International Student Award from the Maryland Institute College of Art (2018). Li completed her BFA (Hons) at University of the Arts London, Chelsea College of Arts, in 2020, and received her MA in Painting at the Royal College of Art, in 2022.

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Pauline Shaw (b. 1988, Washington) lives and works in New York. She completed her MFA at Columbia University in 2019 and received her BFA from Rhode Island School of Design in 2011. Exhibitions include: "In Defense of Secrets," Downs & Ross, New York (2022); "Open Call," The Shed, New York (2021); "Apostolic Succession," Spurs Gallery, Beijing (2021); Half Gallery, New York (2020); "Tropical Lab 13: Erase," Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore (2019); "Chorus," Almine Rech, Paris (2019); "Domestic Horror," Gagosian, Park & 75th, New York (2019); "Body Remnants, and Other Impressions," In lieu, Los Angeles (2019); "In Response: Scene," The Jewish Museum, New York (2018), and "Slightly Undercooked," BBQLA, Los Angeles (2016). Shaw has been an artist in residence at ISCP, New York (2020), and The France Los Angeles Residency Exchange Program (2014).