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Likenesses

Maurizio Anzeri, Kota Ezawa,
Mike Henderson, Taha Heydari,
Matt Lipps, Aimé Mpane and
Shirin Neshat

On View: July 9 - August 31, 2019

Opening Reception: Thursday, June 11, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

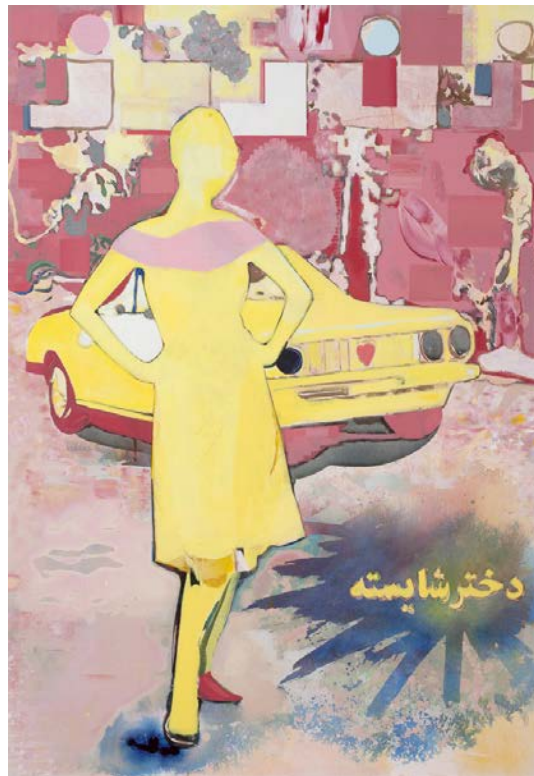
Haines Gallery proudly presents **Likenesses**, a group exhibition bringing together works by seven contemporary artists from around the world to explore the conventions, possibilities, and limits of portraiture. The paintings, photographs, and mixed-media pieces included in *Likenesses* often reveal less about their human subjects than about the genre of portraiture as socially, psychologically, and politically charged.

Maurizio Anzeri embroiders vintage photographs with intricate filigrees of thread that obscure the faces of the original sitters while leaving exposed an eye, a mouth, or an ear. His colorful handiwork simultaneously masks and unmasks his subjects while upending the intentions of conventional portrait photography.

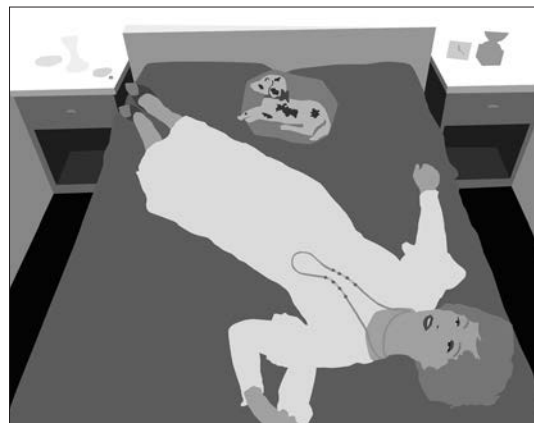
Kota Ezawa's pared down renderings of music icons Jimi Hendrix and Joni Mitchell merge with Josef Albers' colored squares to suggest portraiture as another form of abstraction; while his recreation of one of Cindy Sherman's celebrated *Untitled Film Stills* adds yet another layer of scaffolding to its constructed subject.

A rare, early self-portrait by Bay Area painter **Mike Henderson**, showing the artist with his blues band, is a vibrant snapshot of mid-1960s San Francisco and its eclectic of artists and musicians. Rich colors, restless energy, and an affinity to music create a throughline from his early figuration and later move into pure abstraction.

Recent paintings by the Iranian artist **Taha Heydari** rework covers of the women's magazine *Zan-e Rooz* (*Woman of Today*) published just prior to the Iranian revolution. The works depict a modern, secular, cosmopolitan subject who unwittingly poses on the precipice of her own extinction.



Taha Heydari, *Lancia*, 2018
acrylic on canvas, 42 x 29 inches



Kota Ezawa, *Untitled Film Still*, 2005
duratrans transparency and lightbox, 22 x 28 inches,
edition of 5 + 2 AP



Matt Lipps, *Untitled (Sculpture)*, 2010
C-Print, diptych, 33 x 44 inches each
Courtesy of Jessica Silverman Gallery

The figures in **Matt Lipps'** large-scale photographs are cut from pages of *Horizon*, a mid-century American art and culture magazine, and arranged into complex groupings that amplify the role that images play in transmitting the dominant myths of a culture.

Belgium-based Congolese artist **Aimé Mpane's** works with a traditional wood carving tool called an *adze* to create rough-hewn portraits painted and etched onto wooden panels. Newly completed in 2019, a series of portraits of the people he meets on the streets of Kinshasa explore modern Congolese identity.

In an enigmatic self-portrait from her groundbreaking *Women of Allah* series, **Shirin Neshat** embodies the role of a female warrior during the Iranian Islamic Revolution of 1979, hinting at the complexities and contradictions beneath the veil.

About the Artists

Maurizio Anzeri's (b. 1969, lives and works in London, UK) embroidered portraits and landscapes are included in the collections of the Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK; Museo Cantonale, Lugano, Switzerland; Museum Kunstpalast, Dusseldorf, Germany; Pilara Foundation Collection, Pier 24 Photography, San Francisco, CA; and the Rothschild and Saatchi Collections. He has exhibited in institutions including Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY; Baltic Center for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, UK; The Photographer's Gallery, London, UK; National Museum of Art, Architecture, and Design, Oslo, Norway; and the Shanghai Gallery of Art, China.

Kota Ezawa (b. 1969, lives and works between the San Francisco Bay Area, CA and Berlin, Germany) studied at the Kunstakademie Dusseldorf and San Francisco Art Institute, and received his MFA from Stanford University. His work has been exhibited in and collected by major institutions, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC; Art Institute of Chicago, IL; and Berkeley Art Museum, CA, among many others. He is a participating artist in the 2019 Whitney Biennial.



Aimé Mpane, II, X, VIII, 2014-2019
Acrylic and mixed media on wood panels, 12.5 x 12 inches each

Mike Henderson (b. 1944, lives and works in the San Francisco Bay Area, CA) received his MFA from the San Francisco Art Institute in 1970. He is a recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship and National Endowment for the Arts grants, and has exhibited in solo and group shows at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, CA; de Young Museum, San Francisco, CA; Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA; Oakland Museum of California, CA; Honolulu Academy of Art, HI; and Whitney Museum of America Art, New York, NY.

Taha Heydari (b. 1986, lives and works in Baltimore, MD) received his BFA from the Art University of Tehran and MFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore. He has exhibited in San Francisco, Tehran, Berlin, and New York. In 2017, the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art presented his first museum solo exhibition, *Subliminal*.

Matt Lipps (b. 1975, lives and works in Los Angeles, CA) received his MFA from University of California, Irvine. His works can be found in the collections of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, CA; Pilara Foundation Collection, Pier 24 Photography, San Francisco, CA; and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Hammer Museum, and Museum of Contemporary Art (all Los Angeles, CA).

Aimé Mpane (b. 1968, lives and works between Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Brussels, Belgium) has exhibited in the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA; Brooklyn Museum, NY; and the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO. He is included in the landmark 2019 exhibition *Black Models: From Gericault to Matisse* at the Musée d'Orsay, Paris, France; and was recently commissioned to create a sculpture for the Royal Museum for Central Africa in Tervuren, Belgium.

Shirin Neshat's (b. 1957, lives and works in New York, NY) films and photographs have exhibited worldwide, including award-winning presentations at the Venice Biennale in Italy and Gwangju Biennial in South Korea. Her works are collected by the Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY; Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; Tate Gallery, London, UK; and San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, CA, among many others.