

# TANYA LING

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## LINES

ALEX EAGLE

91 Walton Street SW3 2HP

14th September - 18th October 2014.

Open to the public Thursday - Saturday, 11am - 6pm and at other times by appointment.

Private View

Saturday September 13th, 11am - 8pm.

Ling has been making large scale *Line Paintings* in her studio since the middle of last year. Closely related, in style and substance to the group of short-lived wall paintings commissioned to mark the closing of the Mayor Gallery's old space on Cork Street, the works are new and have never been previously seen by a London audience.

The exhibition and body of work marks a mid point in Ling's career which to date has existed in a sometimes lonely no man's land between the fringes of the fashion/creative service industry and art world. She is best known for her work as a fashion illustrator and her Instagram account.

None of the paintings are planned, in the sense that Ling's hand and eye relies entirely on instinct and intuition. Characterised by a beautiful efficiency they are made in one session but if there is an apparent effortlessness it serves to hide a system. Her saturated paint brush glides over the surface of the white paper and a line in ultra marine ink is created with no preordained route or direction. The brush is lifted, reloaded and drawn again across the paper surface, without hesitation. A group of lines will run together only to change direction quickly to avoid careering into other lines set out against their path - then part and, if necessary, take different routes and only stop when they are forced to converge or run over the edge of the sheet. Some travel a fair distance and create a dynamic tension whereas the shortest are contained between the spaces created by longer lines that turn in toward themselves. The lines do not tangle but act as contours that give the illusion of 3-dimensional forms that dip, weave and swirl into and out of each other, creating impressions of sci-fi landscapes, sculptures, plants and other organic objects. All the works in this series are created with the same method and rules, yet all are unique and suggest that Ling possesses the ability to extend the series and produce an infinite variety.

Whilst graphically vivid, the paintings possess an ethereal beauty, strength and femininity that gently parodies the art of macho action painting. Accompanying the paintings are much smaller works; companion pieces made on old plates where grouting, found objects, paint, card and glue are stuck together as Assemblage.

Alex Eagle is the creative director of The Store, Soho House, Berlin and has invited Ling to show in her space on Walton Street before she opens it as a mini emporium for art, design, photography, fashion and furniture - a new space for invention and collaborations with artists, designers and creatives.

For further information please contact [studio@tanyaling.com](mailto:studio@tanyaling.com)

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