

For immediate release

## **Afa Annfa**

### **Peas**

20 April - 19 May, 2023

Opening Reception: Wednesday, 19 April 2023, 6 - 9 pm (Artist will be present)



*Together, we're alone*, 2023, oil and canvas collage on linen, 84 by 60.5 cm.  
Courtesy of the artist and JPS Gallery.

Living in the midst of a bustling city where we are surrounded by countless high rises that seem to extend into vertical infinity. Afa Annfa's first solo exhibition in Paris, presented at JPS Gallery will prompt you to question whether these lavish structures are an outcome of human civilisation's advancement. Or simply a facade that distracts us from the fragility of human civilisation as we grapple with the rising prevalence of loneliness and social isolation in modern societies?

Inspired by her experience of failing to seek a sense of belongingness in any social group, Afa Annfa hoped to unravel the interconnection between individuals and the collective. What she discovered was humankind's history of waging wars for various self-righteous reasons yet failing to learn from the cruel aftermath. Human civilisations repeated incompetence in handling such grave affairs is



metaphorised into ceramic vases painted with facades of buildings. The exquisite craftsmanship of each vase symbolises human wisdom and civilisation, yet the fragile nature of ceramics makes one question whether civilisation indeed furthers humanity's progression.

Afa Annfa will also present a series of paper works framed with concrete to emulate small windows the size of our mobile phones. Technology has enhanced the size and diversity of our social networks, encouraging us to no longer fear loneliness or worry about separateness. But its replacement of real-world social interactions has led many of us to enjoy a life of seclusion. Drawing inspiration from how we all live in close proximity, yet we are all alone, the independent windows displayed together portray a harmonious society whilst the beauty of each individual's life is highlighted when viewed separately.

Whether you belong to a window that is part of a larger group or a window that is secluded from the rest, it is unnecessary to question or deny others' way of life even in the face of human civilisation's fragility. Only through self-growth and inner abundance can the fear of loneliness be fully overcome. Afa Annfa's solo exhibition *Peas* encourages us to take pride in our uniqueness by staying true to ourselves because only then can we live a fulfilled life.

### **About Afa Annfa**

Afa Annfa is one of the emerging stars in the local art scene. Her works probe the complexities of human emotions and our connection with one another, capturing tensions between the human psyche and worldly materials.

Afa approaches painting with her visceral meditation and observation that evoke strong sentiments. Her practice recalls the style of Japanese Ukiyo-e and irregular comics, depicting figures that seem to be fictional in an atmospheric environment yet remain substantial and grounded. Afa creates narratives and a unique language to manifest her inner visions through images adapted from popular culture.

Afa earned her BA from Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Before becoming a full-time artist, she worked in one of the biggest advertising agencies in Hong Kong. She enjoyed a successful career as a commercial illustrator collaborating with international as well as local brands and musicians. In 2018, Afa was awarded the CreateSmart Young Design Talent Award from the DFA Hong Kong Design Talent Award. Since 2020 Afa has been participating in various charity auctions, including The ExtraOrdinary Exhibition with Karen Leung Foundation at Phillips and the HKAGA fundraiser event at Christie's.



## **About JPS Gallery**

Established in Hong Kong in 2014 and later in Japan, Paris and Barcelona, JPS Gallery is an independent contemporary art gallery presenting works of emerging and established artists from around the world.

The gallery is founded with a passionate spirit that dedicates to the new digital age and the exploration of the world of fine art and pop culture. We aim to create an innovative environment for a new generation of artists and collectors, fostering a creative space for all. We focus on fun and playful works of the era that spans across different mediums and disciplines, showcasing a discerning selection of works that embody the aesthetics of today.

We are committed to supporting the culture and art scene in Asia and Europe, creating a vibrant local art community. The gallery regularly presents works of emerging artists in our gallery spaces in Tokyo, Hong Kong, Paris as well as international art fairs, giving them a platform to gain global exposure, supporting young artists to launch their careers. JPS has also been an active contributor to society and the local art scene by sponsoring various charity events and auctions.

## **Location**

12 rue Notre-Dame de Nazareth, 75003 Paris

## **Media Enquiry**

For media enquires and press preview, please contact  
Mika Chen | [mika@jpsgallery.com](mailto:mika@jpsgallery.com)

## **Social Media Hashtags**

@afa\_annfa @afa\_leeishere @jpsgallery  
#peas #afaannfa #jpsgallery

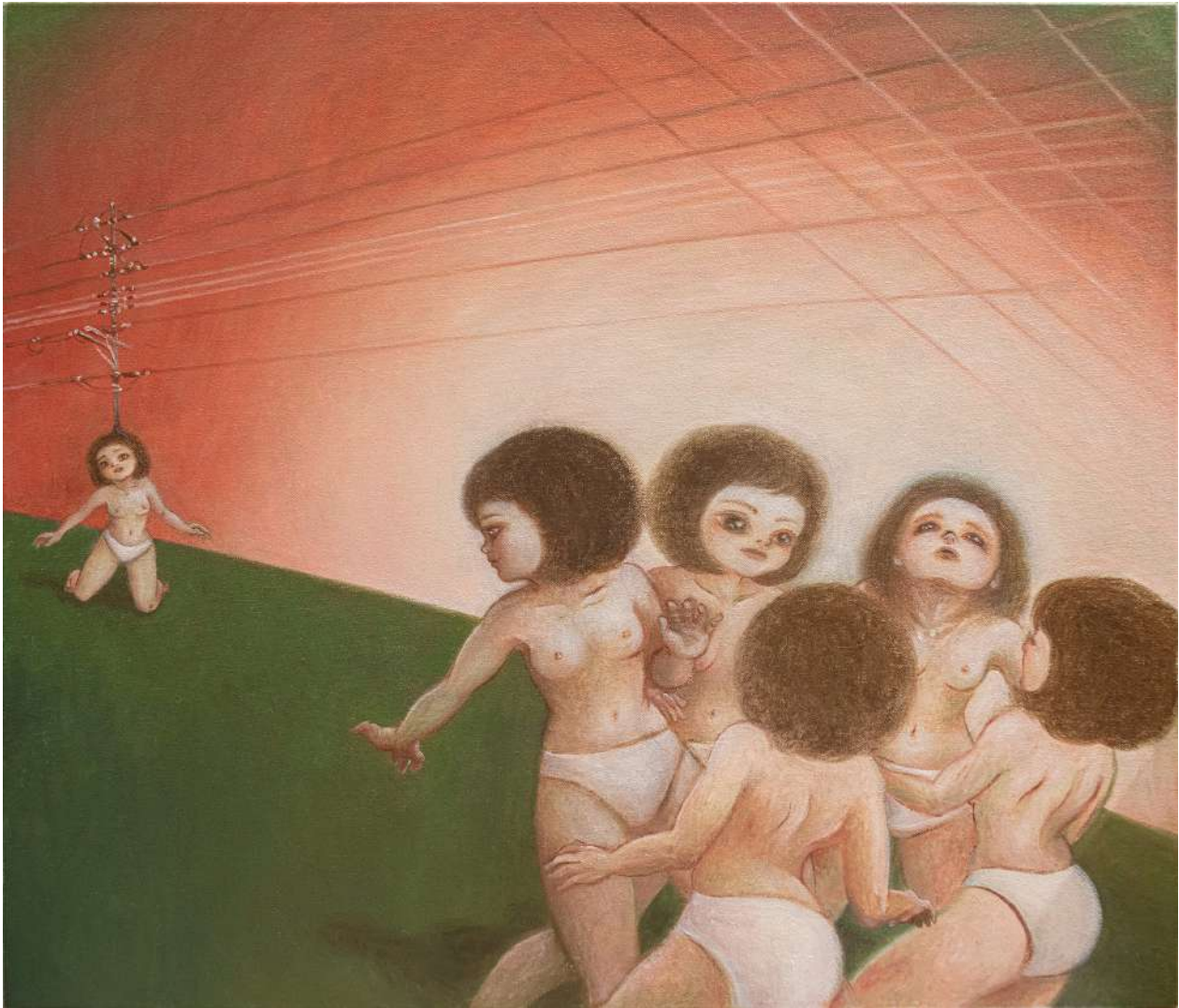


***Till the Wind Disperses Us***

2023

Oil and canvas collage on linen

84 by 60.5 cm



***Don't fear, my dear***

2023  
Oil on canvas  
60 by 70 cm



**Window 5**

2023

Pencil on paper in artist's frame

8.5 by 7 cm; 18.5 by 17 cm (framed)



**Window 8**

2023  
Acrylic on washi paper in artist's frame  
8.5 by 7 cm; 18.5 by 17 cm (framed)



**Window 9**

2023  
Acrylic on washi paper in artist's frame  
8.5 by 7 cm; 18.5 by 17 cm (framed)



***Building 3***

2023  
Acrylic on porcelain  
H31.5 by W26 by D9 cm





***Building 2***

2023

Acrylic on porcelain

H31.5 by W11 by D11 cm