

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**MONICA MAJOLI**

November 8, 2012 –  
January 5, 2013

Opening Reception:  
Thursday, November 8, 6 – 8 PM

L & M Arts is honored to present an exhibition of new work by Los Angeles based artist Monica Majoli. This will be the artist's first gallery presentation in her hometown.

Themes of absence, projection, attachment and temporality have informed Majoli's work over the past 20 years. Across shifts in subject matter and materiality, her paintings often instigate voyeurism or triangulation with the viewer through the visual reenactment and documentation of actual events, sexual activities and personal relationships. [In this latest group of works](#), Majoli [has](#) returned to autobiographical material in mid-life, not as an examination of identity as expressed through sexuality, but as an interrogation of her romantic history through the visages of a series of former lovers. Captivated by the eerie half-image reflected in walls of black mirror in her home, Majoli explores the shared properties of mirror and painting as fetish and surrogate. Her darkly luminescent oil paintings obscure and reveal their subjects, using the mirror as both source material and historical context to question processes of romantic projection and disappointment, absorption and disappearance. [This series](#) stands as a kind of inverted self-portrait through the depiction of a private chronicle of passion, impossibility and failure; an attempt at reparation through the act of painting.

In tandem with the images of lovers are non-representational works on paper that create both a complementary and disordering effect on the interception of meaning. The experience of an intuitive yet illogical connection linking the images draws viewers into the contemplation of unsettling relationships; their abstraction figures a void that also structures the representational paintings. These works on paper use the materials and mechanical process of lithography to produce large expanses of dark color, which are then framed compositionally by hand in passages of gouache and acrylic ink. These works represent a continued investigation of the emotional content inherent in historical materials; in this

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series the artist chose lithography to confront the lifelong absence of her father, a lithographer with a fine art press in Italy. For Majoli, the pairing of two instances of removal reverberates in an unlikely and rich emotive symmetry.

Monica Majoli was born in Los Angeles and studied at the University of California, Los Angeles. She lives and works in Los Angeles, and is an Associate Professor of Art at the University of California, Irvine. She has had solo exhibitions at Air de Paris, Paris as well as Gagosian, New York, and her work is represented in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art, New York, the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles and the Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles.

**GALLERY INFORMATION:** L&M Arts, Los Angeles, 660 South Venice Boulevard, Venice, CA, 90291. Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 - 5:30 and by appointment. For additional information, please contact L&M Arts at: +1.310.821.6400 or visit our website: [www.lmgallery.com](http://www.lmgallery.com).