

## THEIR EGOS WILL LEAD THEM TO THIS FUTURE

By Jack Hughes



LONDON, UK, (insert release date); Brushes with Greatness brings mythology and landscape to London Bridge in the form of *Their Egos Will Lead Them To This Future*, artist Jack Hughes' first London solo show, a painting exhibition showcasing ancient Greek figures of myth, their attempts to take fate into their own hands and the punishments aligning their arrogance.



*Rejection Of The Gods*, Oil on canvas, 160 x 165cm

Hughes' body of small – large scale oil painting stem from the central work entitled *Rejection Of The Gods*, depicting Bellerophon falling from Pegasus, as he attempted to fly to Mount Olympus to join the Gods; where he felt he belonged – an example of Greek legends centring around man's ego, and sense of entitlement.

Hughes' exhibition captures these characters and analogous monsters using bold colours and gestural brush marks, interpreting these myths as vivid, dreamy paintings representing these protagonists' triumphant highs and fatal lows. Hughes' intersection of beasts bringing current, subtle commentary to an imbalance born from both ego, ambition, and cultural divergence. Some figures becoming part of the underpainting, taking a more background role in the composition, the surrounding landscapes dominating the foreground via refined mark making and stronger application of paint.

This use of landscape is representative of how man's actions are shrouded in mystery and hearsay, enigmas of myth and oral storytelling; whilst the landscapes they are set in are permanent. Hughes' bare landscapes, all inspired by ancient descriptions of the Aegean Sea, comment on the contrasting, indomitable grandeur of the natural world. In the words of curator Jack Trodd:

"Hughes is subtly showcasing the temporality of the mortal ego through storytelling - even considering the passage of time from early Grecian Mythology to the present day - wherein the host, the land, will tell tales for generations far beyond the scope of any iconic hero, acting as the eternal constant beyond good and evil, morality and ego."

Experience *Their Egos Will Lead Them To This Future's* at *Tap & Bottle*, London Bridge Wine Bar and Gallery that oozes character reflecting the passage of time, where the stripped back brick and panel floored, grade II listed interior compliments Hughes' raw style of bold underpainting.

### Listings Info:

**Artist:** Jack Hughes

**Title:** *Their Egos Will Lead Them To This Future*

**Dates:** 10<sup>th</sup> May – 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2022

**Address:** Tap & Bottle | 64 Union Street | London | SE1 1SG

**Opening Times:** 3pm – 11pm | Tue – Sat

**Admission:** Free

**Nearest tube:** London Bridge

**Private View Event:** 4 – 8pm | 15<sup>th</sup> May 2022

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**Notes to Editors:**

**Artist Bio:**

Jack Hughes (b. 1997, Wales) is a London based painter who gained his BA in Fine Art from Bournemouth University in 2018. Hughes' paintings are characterised by bold under-painting and contrasting colours. The artist creates saturated landscapes and figurative works depicting dreams and memories, drawing inspiration beyond his isolated rural upbringing from cinema, classical painting and narrative literature. Jack's work has been shown across the UK by galleries inc. Blue Shop Cottage, Rise Art, Huxley Parlous, D Contemporary and with Gonzo Unit in Thessaloniki, Greece. Hughes' work can be found in collections in North America, New Zealand, Greece and throughout Europe.

**About the Venue:**

[Tap & Bottle](#) is a stylish, up-and-coming wine bar bringing London a busy schedule of *Fine Wine, Fine Art & Fine Conversation* throughout 2022. Amongst their many other events, they will be hosting bi-monthly exhibitions showcasing the work of exciting emerging talent in the UK supported by talks, performances and more. Curated by Jack Trodd.

**About the Gallery:**

[Brushes with Greatness](#) is an agency & pop-up gallery, established in 2021 by fine art fanatic Jack Trodd to match passion with passion, forging creative connections. Enabling artists & collections to thrive together through an ever-evolving calendar of public exhibitions, connectivity, and private opportunities.