

Unfamiliar Terrain: An Investigation Through Painting on The Idea of The Uncanny

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The uncanny, which is associated with a feeling of disorientation, mild panic or confusion when faced with something strangely familiar has been a frequent subject of the visual arts and literature. In this body of work I am interested in what Freud termed “the friendly aspect” of the uncanny. Strangely familiar yet comic images have the potential to disturb or disorientate. In this show titled Malevolentos I attempt to explore this aspect of the uncanny and invite the viewer to consider how this ‘un-homely’ feeling occurs through painting. Malevolentos is my own hybrid term that refers to a mis-heard phrase, a half-remembered image of something familiar yet also unfamiliar, the comic bordering on the sinister.