

Gronk

Indian Queen



Indian Queen (detail) ink on paper mono print 2012

March 30 – May 4, 2013

Artist's reception: Saturday, March 30, 7 – 10 pm,

Los Angeles-based artist, Gronk is returning to L2kontemporary with a new body of work, "Indian Queen", created in preparation and research for Peter Sellers' upcoming Opera of the same name.

Gronk will be renewing his on-going association with Peter Sellars by creating the set design for their new world version of "The Indian Queen," a semi-opera in five acts, with music by Henry Purcell, and first performed at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, London, in 1695. In this, Peter Sellars' updated version of "Indian Queen," the music will be based on Aztec music. Gronk's sets, however, will be incorporating a color pallet, shapes and forms derived from Mayan culture, rather than that of the Aztec's. The work presented at the gallery, flowing from and based upon the upcoming opera, was started in early 2012, and coalesced in 2013. In this exhibition, Gronk approaches the canvas and paper surfaces as if they were blank musical sheets, just waiting for the score to be penned. The shapes and marks placed on these surfaces then exist as if they themselves were the musical notes of the opera. His intention is to visualize and re-contextualize Purcell's old work, infusing it with a new world view and in particular with Gronk's specific mark making touch.