

# NICELLE BEAUCHENE GALLERY

**Alice Tippit**

*Unspelt*

December 9, 2020 – January 16, 2021

Opening December 9, 10-6 pm

If we survive the teeth, we succumb to the waves.

- Virginia Woolf, *Orlando*

Nicelle Beauchene Gallery is thrilled to announce *Unspelt*, Alice Tippit's third solo show with the gallery and the inaugural exhibition at our new home, 7 Franklin Place. *Unspelt* will open on December 9th with a daylong reception from 10-6 PM.

For *Unspelt*, Alice Tippit continues to tangle meaning and evade certainty through her clean, hard-edged oil on canvas paintings. Working towards what she identifies as "a mistaking," Tippit magics color and form into compositions that suggest many things. Pursued pink lips form a hole for peeping or other acts in *Drop* (all works 2020), while in *Tribe* seeds become bite marks that become fangs. Alliances among perceived objects, figures, sensations, or sounds are formed and disbanded within a single look.

The menace lurking behind Tippit's paintings is language itself: a tether the artist unknots to drift in and out of view through her spare titling. We come to these small works given single words like *Vex* and *Verge*, *Bade* and *Bald*, each a vessel of meaning that then splinters on assignment with its associated painting. Tippit welcomes this linguistic uncoupling as a poetic gesture for expanding meaning well beyond the definitions words so desperately cling to.

Several works on paper accompany the paintings on view. Rendered with water-soluble pencils on paper, these even further stripped-down images engage directly with letters as individual units of leaky association.

Describing the works joined together in *Unspelt*, Tippit offers the following image:

*The flood imbues everything. In its wake the ties of meaning are loosened, and in this unmooring there is opportunity. The best one can do in this scenario is try to float; or better: surf.*

**Alice Tippit** (b. 1975) graduated from the Art Institute of Chicago and lives and works in Chicago, Illinois. Tippit has had solo exhibitions at Patron Gallery, Chicago (2020); Grice Bench, Los Angeles (2020); Kimmerich Gallery, Berlin (2019, 2017); Paris London Hong Kong, Chicago (2017); and KRETS, Malmö, Sweden (2017), among others. Recent group exhibitions include Nathalie Karg Gallery, New York (2020); Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago (2019); CHART, New York (2019); Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago (2018); Anton Kern Gallery, New York (2018); Peana Projects; Monterrey, MX (2018); Adams and Ollman, Portland (2017); and 47 Canal, New York (2015), among others. Tippit was a Finalist for the 2019 Artadia Award, Chicago.

New gallery hours are Tuesday – Saturday, 10-6 PM. Appointments are encouraged but not required.

For further information, please contact [galler@nicellebeauchene.com](mailto:galler@nicellebeauchene.com)