

## Inner Connection

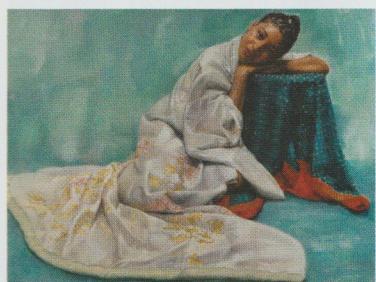
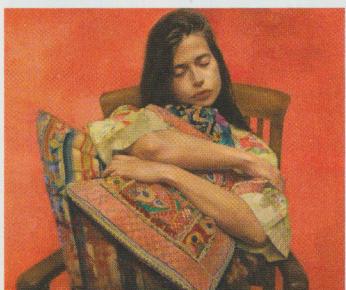
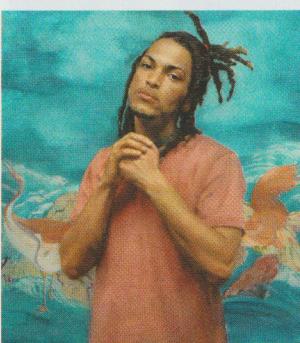
OCTOBER 6 THROUGH 29, Gallery Henoch in New York City will present its seventh solo show for artist Sharon Sprung that will feature new figurative paintings hanging alongside important portrait commissions. The Brooklyn-based artist is known for her contemporary viewpoint combined with her knowledge and understanding of past masters such as Caravaggio and Egon Schiele.

"Since I am purposefully involved with the contemporary world, I always seek to merge it with a surface that is at once abstractly patterned and textured, and that combines a meticulous respect for realism with the power of the personal image to speak a universal language," she says in her artist statement.

In the show at Gallery Henoch, one of her newest paintings *Angle of Repose* shows her adeptness at painting billowing fabrics as well as capturing a quiet, still moment. *Resting But Complicated* has the sitter holding gorgeously patterned pillows close to her chest to show inner contemplation and reflection. The stunning portrait *Emergence* depicts a young man looking toward his next journey, which is reflected in the crane taking flight behind him.

Sprung is one of the leading figurative painters working today and, as unveiled on September 7, 2022, had the distinct and rare honor of painting former first lady Michelle Obama for her official White House portrait. The piece, commissioned by the White House Historical Association, was set into motion in 2016 but its unveiling was delayed because of COVID-19 and political strife. As with all of Sprung's portraits, the work taps into the emotion and inner being of the person. The strong outward gaze of Mrs. Obama paired with her natural pose shows her grace and dignity as well as her confidence and approachability.

Gallery Henoch will host a public reception for the artist on October 13 from 6 to 8 p.m.



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*Ikebana Blossom, 2019*  
Seven-color serigraph with handwork  
37" H x 25" W  
Edition of 120; signed in paint  
and numbered in pencil

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