



Michael Corner *Cliché*

May 8 – November 15, 2026

Opening Reception | CREA | May 8 | 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Artist Conversation | Michael Corner in conversation
with Sandrine Welte | May 8 | 5:00 – 6:00 PM

Essay by Sandrine Welte

**CREA Cantieri del Contemporaneo
Fondamenta de la Giudecca, 211, 30133
Venezia VE, Italy**

***Cliché* is a solo exhibition of new paintings by
Michael Corner, presented by Ryan Green Gallery
and installed at CREA in Giudecca, Venice.**

Michael Corner's paintings operate within the collapse of time. Drawing from emblematic works in Western art history, he constructs scenes in which historical quotation functions as stage, backdrop, and structural device. Past and present coexist. Chronology dissolves. What appears archival becomes immediate.

Living and working in Banff, Alberta, high in the Canadian Rocky Mountains, Corner operates far from the conventional circuits of the art world. This distance offers him perspective, allowing an approach to canonical imagery with a distinct and penetrating focus.

In *Cliché*, representation itself is placed under pressure. Certain images arrive already stabilized by repetition. Archetypes, gestures, tropes. Recognition feels instant. Yet Corner mobilizes this familiarity in order to unsettle it. The expectation begins to shift.



I Have Done with all my Dreams, 2026

48 × 60 inches

Oil on canvas

Across the exhibition, trompe-l'oeil citations from canonical paintings are embedded within contemporary compositions. These historical fragments do not function as homage. They operate as structural tension. Figures occupy suspended moments, poised, anticipating, arrested. A gesture is initiated but not completed. Nothing resolves.

The viewer becomes implicated in this suspension. Meaning does not reside securely within the image; it gathers through the act of looking. Corner's paintings resist narrative closure. They stage a theatre in which the unresolved remains active.

Installed within the industrial architecture of CREA, the exhibition situates Corner's work in dialogue with a site defined by layered histories of production, transformation, and display.

Installed in Venice, the exhibition is accompanied by a critical essay by Sandrine Welte, who will be in conversation with Corner on May 8 in conjunction with the opening.

For press inquiries, high-resolution images, or interview requests:

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