

# *office*

## Coinciding with Frieze LA 2022

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*Text by Michael Hall*

### **MAKE ROOM LA - "Fata Morgana" - Jacopo Pagin**

Marking his first solo show in the U.S, Jacopo Pagin invites audiences into the phenomenon that is Fata Morgana, an Italian folklore rooted in the Arthurian character of Morgan le Fay. Running February 15 through March 12, MAKE ROOM LA presents "Fata Morgana," an exhibition investigating the mythology known for luring bystanders out to sea through mirages—explained by many as optical illusions. Although these stories varied among cultures, they spread throughout Europe, "It's positioned between the end of Paganism and the beginning of Christianity, but it collects mythology from Greek culture and Nordic culture," Pagin explains.

An Italian adaptation, "Fata Morgana," combines fairy with destiny or fate, speaking directly to the mutating mythology. Interested in how histories tie together and various interpretations, Pagin has arrived where he unapologetically understands his perspective and the narratives he wants to tell. Dealing with subjects of womanhood and references of multiple cultures, the multimedia artist finds points of entry, hyperaware of his identity and his association to the world.

Including an abstract self-portrait depicting Murano glass, an object close to the artist, Pagin states, "I use Murano glasses as a kind of door as a kind of amulet as a kind of a pendulum to try and make people enter these new realities. I'm trying to manifest states and so often to enter this reality." Informed by history and curiosities, Pagin creates vast worlds on canvases, formulating thoughts with paint.

