



the space between us

"As a child of immigrants, and an immigrant myself, my fixation on space is a particularly meaningful one. How it can affect and shape its occupants," says Loribelle Spirovski, the 29-year-old visual artist who was born in Manila to a Filipino mother and a Yugoslav father and lives today in Sydney, Australia. In addition to her identity, her father, a structural engineer with a "huge interest" in design, also contributed to the leitmotiv of her body of work: surrealist portraits backdropped by detailed architectural environments. Two dozen of them compose "Love, Death and the Time I Knew You" at the House of Fine Art gallery in London, Spirovski's first solo show in the city. Fittingly, the paintings, at 4 feet tall, are room-size, their settings, featuring archways and tilework, informed by an artist residency at Palazzo Monti in Brescia, Italy. One work, The Solipsist, contains a chair that could be a Michael Thonet, but it was inspired by a beloved bentwood rocking chair in the artist's childhood home.

Clockwise from top: Loribelle Spirovski's The Solipsist, The Candidate, The Emissary, and The Ingenue, all 2019 paintings in oil and acrylic on linen, are on view at the House of Fine Art in London through December 11.

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