SUZANNE TARASIEVE

Hanna Dubey
Umbren
November 7 — January 16, 2027
Opening Saturday, November 7, 4—8pm

Silent and melancholic, Hanna Dubey's paintings radiate a strange light. The thin layers of oil, patiently applied, allow the artist to bathe her scenes in twilight glows that seem to emanate from the subjects themselves rather than from an external light source, giving them the "uncanny familiarity" of a photographic negative. In this series, created especially for this project, paintings of sunflowers alternate with more indecipherable scenes: motionless figures half-submerged or kneeling in a circle, a swarm of bees... Between memory, hallucination and collective unconscious, Hanna Dubey's images seem to belong to everyone while resisting any single explanation. The centerpiece of the series, a triptych four meters long, will be shown for the first time at the Salon de Montrouge in February 2027.

Shaped by a formative experience in Marfa, Texas, Hanna Dubey explores the limits of thought when confronted with immensity, as well as the forms of the sublime, of emptiness and of stupefaction. Matter lies at the heart of her working process: she prepares the wooden panels that serve as her supports herself, layers thin coats of oil paint, sands, and intervenes again, placing her works within a long timeframe conducive to wandering thought. The traces of reworking (pentimenti) and the irregularities of the surfaces contribute to the sense of unreality that emanates from her work.

Born in Paris in 2001, Hanna Dubey graduated from the Beaux-Arts de Nantes.
She was a resident of the Encore! endowment fund in 2025 and the winner of the 2026 Fondation Jacques-Henri Hostyn Painting Prize. The gallery devoted a solo show to her in Antwerp in 2025. Her work will be exhibited at the Salon de Montrouge 2027.

A few notes: I rendered "étrange familiarité" as "uncanny familiarity" to keep the Freudian echo, but "strange familiarity" would work if you prefer something plainer. "Sidération" has no exact English equivalent; "stupefaction" is close, though "awe-struck stillness" or "shock" could suit depending on the tone you want. I also kept "pentimenti" in parentheses since it's the established term in English art writing.