

# HENRI PAUL BROYARD



:: GRANT WAHLQUIST GALLERY

# HENRI PAUL BROYARD PIEBALD



**9/8–12/2/2023**

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# PIEBALD

piebald (adj.):

1: composed of incongruous parts

2: of different colors

especially: spotted or blotched with black and white

Henri Paul Broyard's fourth solo exhibition at the gallery, "Piebald" demonstrates the power and inventiveness of a painter committed to articulating the endless possibilities of his chosen genre. Well known for his creation of interior scenes from found photographs and personal snapshots, Broyard's use of these scenes as organizational structures or scaffolding for painterly experimentation is freshly apparent in this group of works. Whereas in prior years Broyard's reference images were predominantly found, a number of paintings in "Piebald" began with reference images staged by the artist or without any reference image whatsoever. The resulting works are replete with personal narrative, drama, humor, and mystery.

The paintings in "Piebald" are studies in contrast between rectilinear edges and serpentine washes; solid, monochromatic shapes and murky, mottled backgrounds; and above all between abstraction and representation. Though Broyard has always created more "purely" abstract work in addition to his interior

scenes, the presence of abstraction within the latter has never been more pronounced. These paintings are synthetic in a philosophical sense: they privilege the medium specificity of painting without denigrating images and their histories, voraciously borrow from observed marks whatever their source, and recognize the contingency of each and every artistic move.

It is, in fact, Broyard's recognition of contingency that appears to have enabled his painting of such confident, bravura works. Broyard's paintings are almost always overpainted and re-painted in part, with traces of their history left visible. Conceptually, this process creates an equivalency between each painting, its own history in the studio, the history of painting, and the history of any given domestic space. Practically—and just as importantly—by giving himself permission to take back any given decision, Broyard frees himself to make big choices, try new techniques, and risk incongruity. "Piebald" is a riveting demonstration of this remarkable sense of freedom.





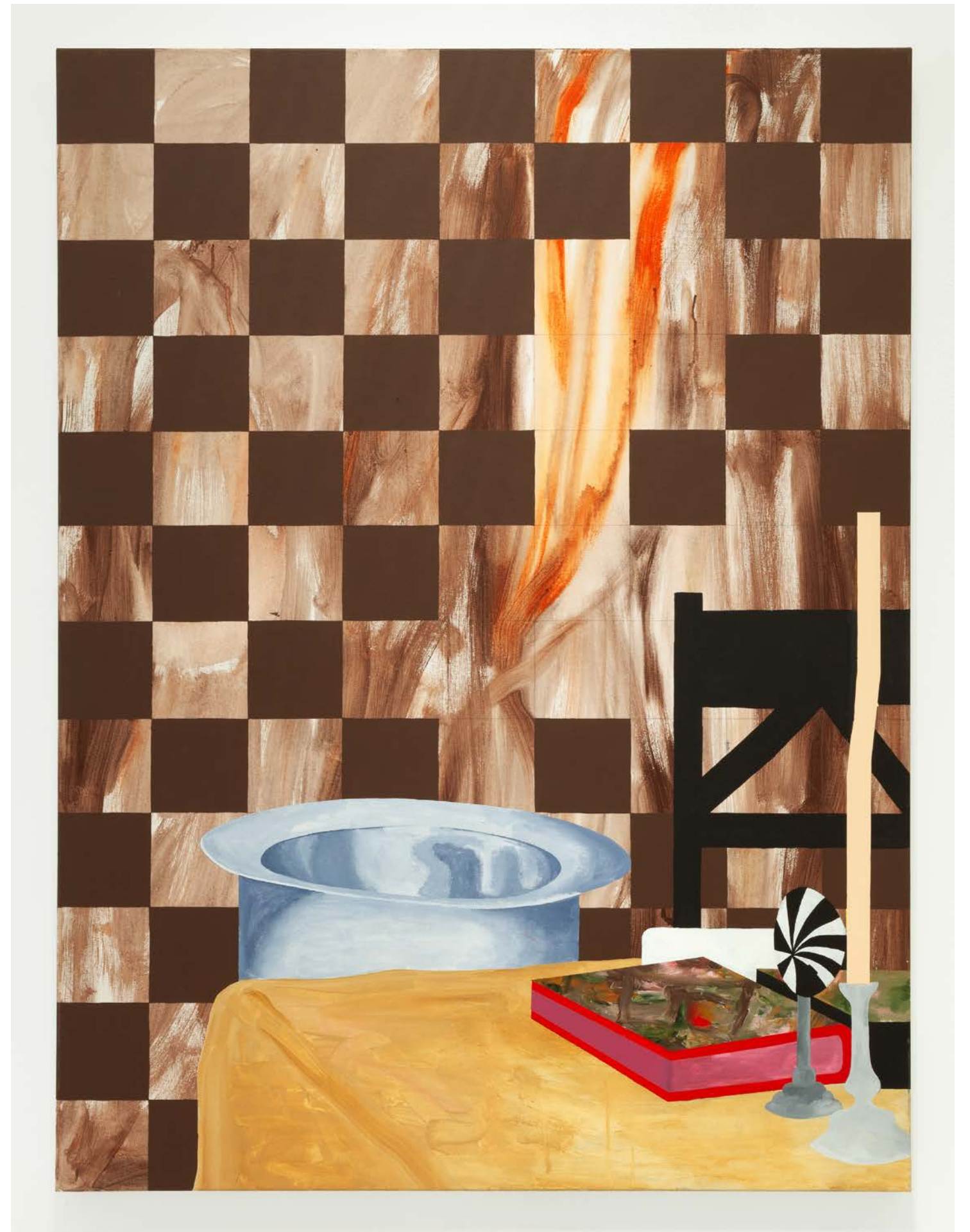
*BU* :: 2023 :: Acrylic on canvas :: 60 x 48 inches





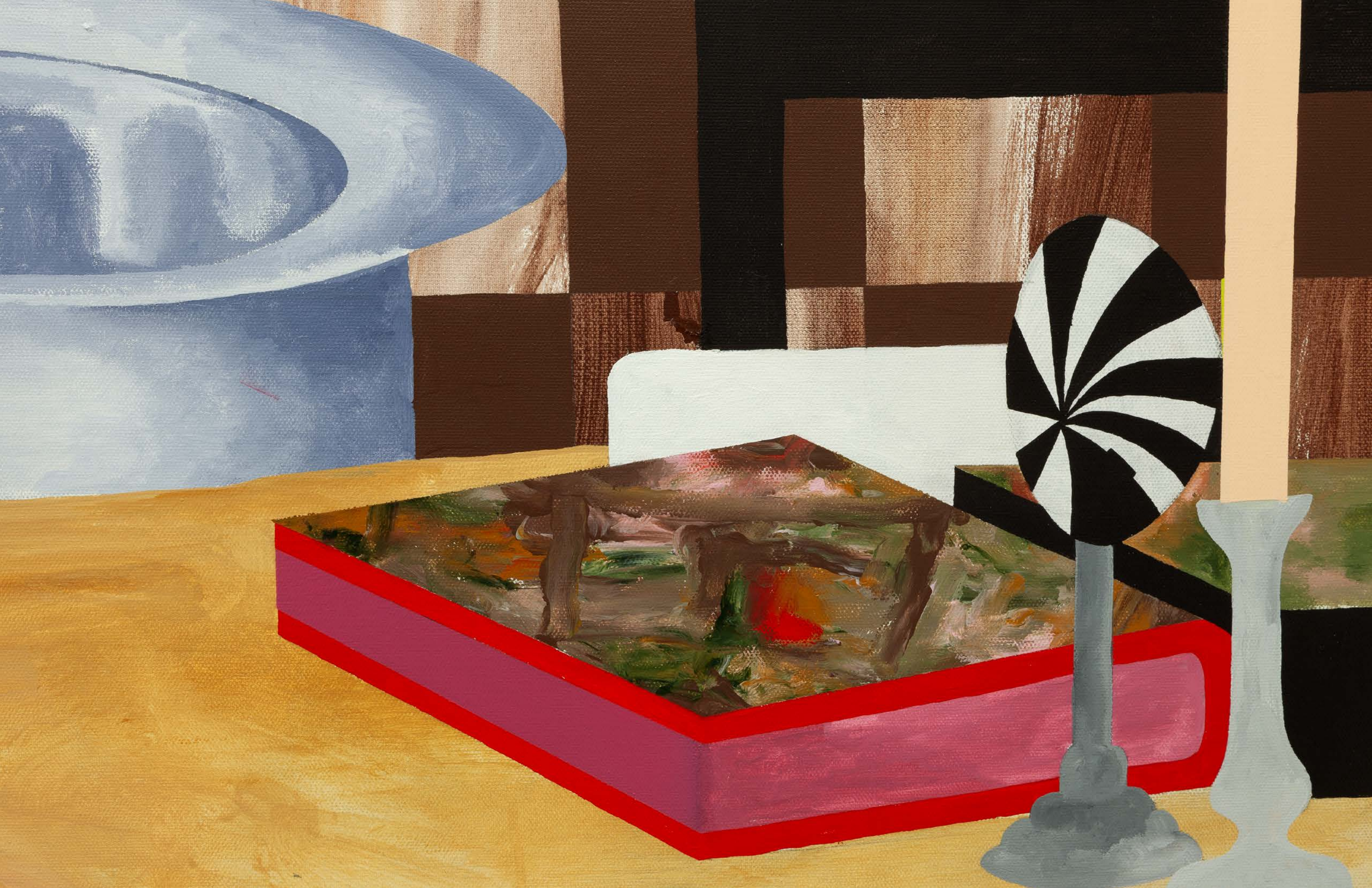
TPX :: 2022 :: Acrylic on canvas :: 48 x 36 inches





**AON** :: 2022 :: Acrylic, flashe, and graphite on canvas :: 48 x 36 inches



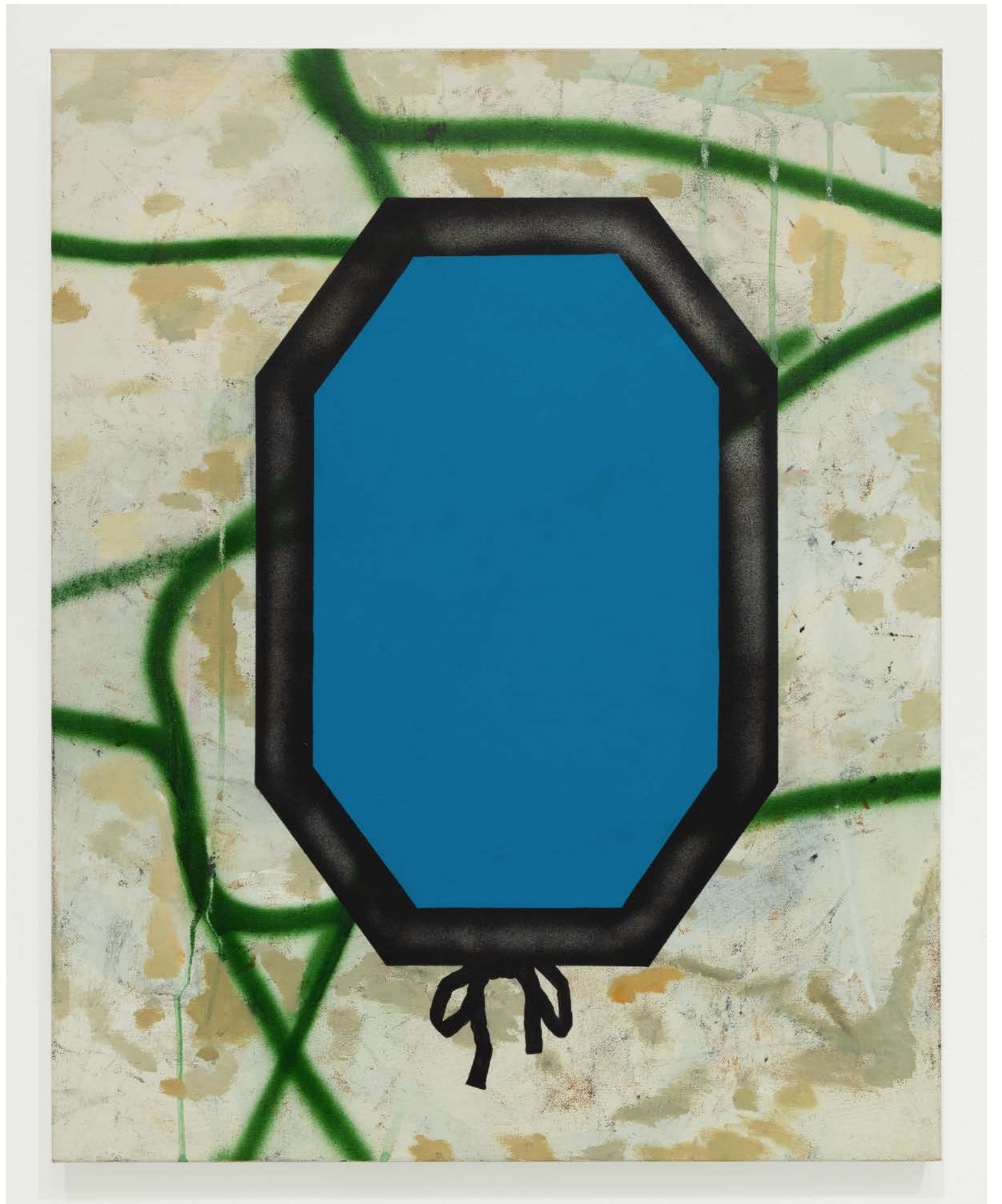






*LR* :: 2022 :: Acrylic and graphite on canvas :: 48 x 36 inches





T50 :: 2022 :: Acrylic on canvas :: 30 x 24 inches







FTZ :: 2023 :: Acrylic on canvas :: 36 x 36 inches







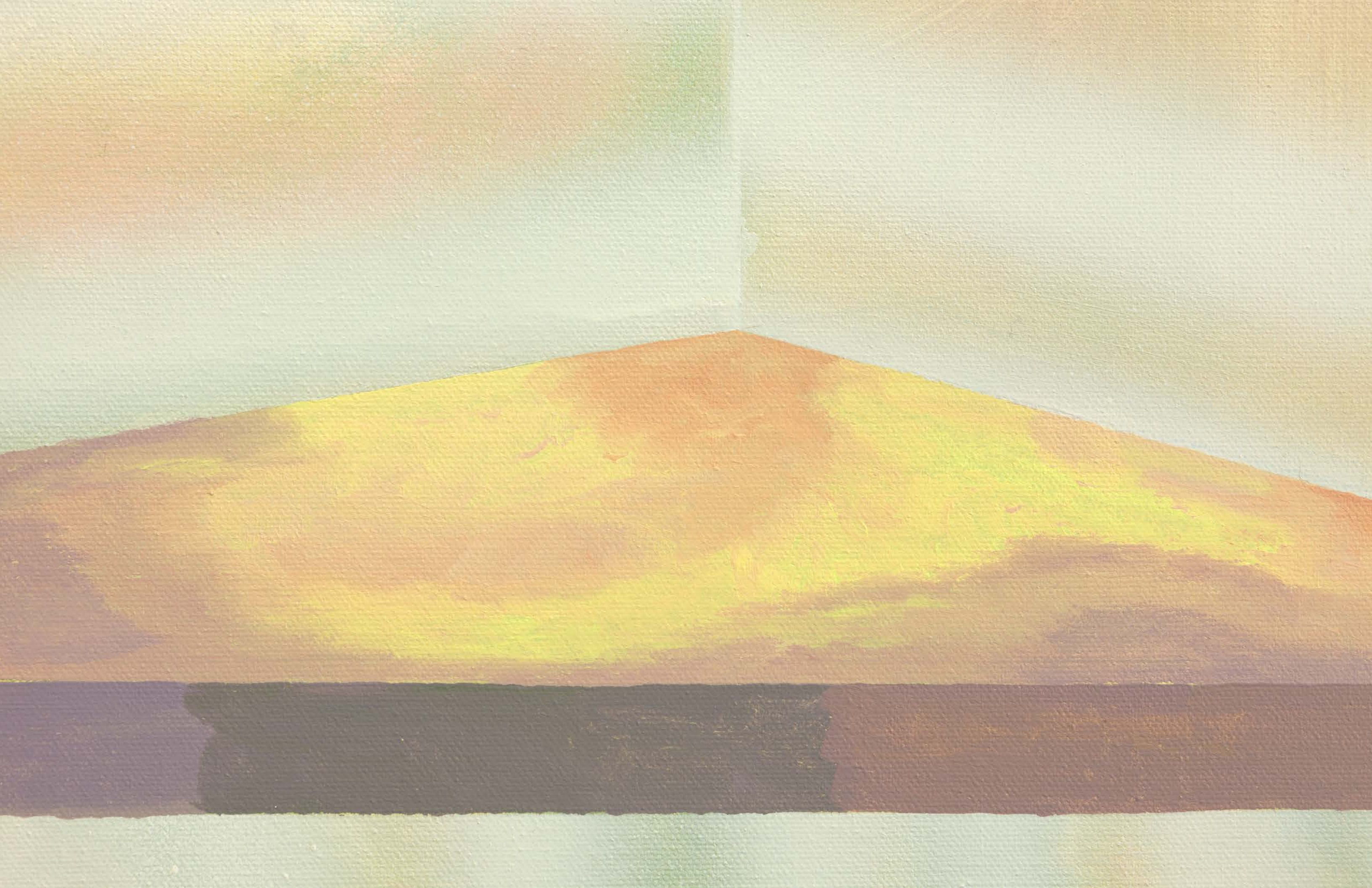
LGL :: 2023 :: Acrylic and spray paint on canvas :: 48 x 48 inches







**TBBR** :: 2023 :: Acrylic and spray paint on canvas :: 20 x 16 inches





*PRH* :: 2023 :: Acrylic on canvas :: 30 x 24 inches







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