

# :: GRANT WAHLQUIST GALLERY

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## ***Henri Paul Broyard: Piebald***

9/8/23 – 12/2/23

piebald (adj.):

1: composed of incongruous parts

2: of different colors

*especially*: spotted or blotched with black and white

Grant Wahlquist Gallery is thrilled to announce “Piebald,” a solo exhibition by Henri Paul Broyard. The show will run from September 8 through December 2, 2023. The gallery will host a reception with the artist on Friday, September 8th, from 5 – 7:30 pm.

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.

“Piebald” coincides with a solo presentation of Broyard’s work at Tiger Strikes Asteroid in New York, “Carousel,” running September 16 – October 15, 2023.

Henri Paul Broyard (b. Los Angeles, California) received a B.F.A. in Drawing and Painting from the California College of the Arts in 2013. He attended the Klasse Peter

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Doig at the Kunstakademie, Dusseldorf, in 2014. Broyard has had solo exhibitions at Grant Wahlquist Gallery in Portland, Maine and Foreland in Catskill, New York. Broyard's work has been included in group exhibitions at venues including: Deli Gallery, New York; Alexander Gray Gallery, New York and Germantown; Essex Flowers, New York; Gern en Regalia, New York; Cindy Rucker Gallery, New York; and Tom Dick or Harry, Dusseldorf, amongst others. His work has been the subject of reviews and publications in *ArtNews*, the *Portland Press Herald*, and *The Rib*. Broyard lives and works in Brooklyn and Canaan, New York.

The gallery is located at 30 City Center, Portland, Maine. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 11 am to 6 pm, and by appointment. For more information, visit <http://grantwahlquist.com>, call 207.245.5732, or email [info@grantwahlquist.com](mailto:info@grantwahlquist.com).