

GAVLAK

THESE ARE
FAVORITE A FEW OF MY
THINGS

CURATED BY
MICHAEL SHERMAN

LINDSAY ADAMS

TAÍNA CRUZ

JORDAN GREENBLATT

TAHA HEYDARI

LATOYA HOBBS

ARISTON JACKS

AMANI LEWIS

DEVIN N MORRIS

ANTONIO SCOTT NICHOLS

CURTIS TALWST SANTIAGO

TONY SHORE

SHAN WALLACE

JAMES WILLIAMS

MONSIEUR ZOHORE

These Are Few Of My Favorite Things

Curated by Michael Sherman

June 11 - July 30, 2022

GAVLAK Los Angeles

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GAVLAK Los Angeles is pleased to present *These Are a Few of My Favorite Things*, a group exhibition curated by Michael Sherman featuring Devin Morris, Taha Heydari, Latoya Hobbs, Curtis Talwst Santiago, Tony Shore, Shan Wallace, Amani Lewis, Taina Cruz, Jordan Greenblatt, Ariston Jacks, Monsieur Zohore, James Williams II, Antonio Scott Nichols, Lindsay Adams.

These Are a Few of My Favorite Things is an exhibition regarding vantage, that particular claim on perspective and position that suggests a more effective view. Invested in geographical matters and spatial realities, this exhibition asks how location and sensation orients space. Noting the constructed sway and significance of places of birth and belonging, gestures, arrangements, mediums, materials and colors at play in the artworks within this exhibition lean towards the moods, pitches and affects of places elsewhere. This can be read as an affirmation of not merely the discursive spaces generated around celebrated city centers of various locales, but also the fortuitous presence generated in the presentation of artwork from “elsewhere,” and in doing so, bringing these places of longing and belonging to the gallery. Alternatively, *These Are a Few of My Favorite Things* supposes that the engineering necessary in fostering both artistic careers and aesthetic endeavors is, in fact, a structure defined by its mutable design and un-locatableness: A thing which is about site, but not located in-situ. The vantage invoked by the exhibition-making points to this redirection, moving land, memories, and the textures of making to(wards) here, reminding us that there is still more to see.

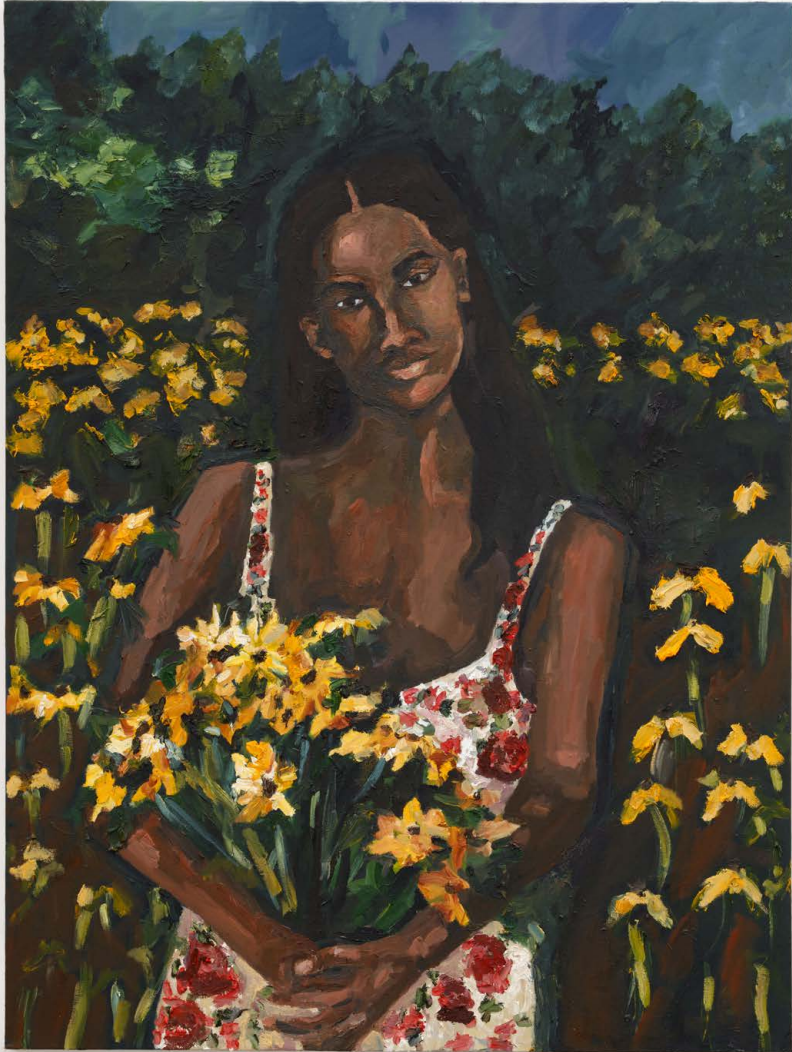
The works presented in *These Are a Few of My Favorite Things* are composed of acrylic, oil, collage, mixed media composites, and ink. In an exhibition of paintings and flat works, figures—abstracted and delineated—populate canvas, paper, and wood. SHAN Wallace and Tony Shore consider cityscapes in collage and acrylic pieces, framing business, intersections, and glimpses of life within these deeply hued and populated portraits. Devin N Morris and Latoya Hobbs offer single

single nude subjects; collapsing space in the plane depicted, material and populated portraits. Devin N Morris and Latoya Hobbs offer single nude subjects; collapsing space in the plane depicted, material used, and renderings of brown skin. James Williams II, Taha Heydari, and Monsieur Zohore utilize figurative abstraction in amalgamated works on myth, technology (as raced and gendered), colonialism, and historiography. Bodies flow in and out of psychedelic disorder and horror, blurring image, boundary, and vantage. Antonio Scott Nichols, Amani Lewis, and Ariston Jacks work in Black diasporic orientations of time, creating works that tend towards afro-futurity and presence through portraits that harbor material and psychic space. Lindsay Adams and Jordan Greenblatt re-contextualize the art historical cannon through still life and portraiture. Lastly, Curtis Talwst Santiago offers a series of mixed media works on paper depicting a horned figure. Santiago’s strokes imbue the figure with something that nears and echoes movement as the white of the paper illuminates the visage of the depicted spirit.

These Are a Few of My Favorite Things takes its title from the 1959 musical *The Sound of Music*. It is a meditation on the objects, experiences and expressions of pleasure and joy, and a reminder that even when these emotions exist alongside suffering, they are, in fact, worth paying attention to. Or perhaps as Toni Morrison reminds us, “I know the world is bruised and bleeding, and though it is important not to ignore its pain, it is also critical to refuse to succumb to its malevolence. Like failure, chaos contains information that can lead to knowledge—even wisdom. Like art.”¹

Essay written by Essance Harden

¹ Toni Morrison, No Place for Self-Pity, No Room for Fear, The Nation, 2015. <https://www.thenation.com/article/archive/no-place-self-pity-no-room-fear/>



Lindsay Adams
For Every Tear Shed, A Flower Grows, 2022
Oil on canvas
48 x 36 x 2 in (121.9 x 91.4 x 5.1 cm)
LAS0003



Lindsay Adams
Red Summer, 1919, 2022
Oil on canvas
48 x 48 x 2 in (121.9 x 121.9 x 5.1 cm)
LAS0001



Lindsay Adams
Down At The Cross, 2022
Oil on canvas
48 x 48 x 2 in (121.9 x 121.9 x 5.1 cm)
LAS0002



Taina Cruz
The bond still lives on without touch, 2022
 Acrylic, pastel and charcoal on canvas
 30 x 24 in (76.2 x 61 cm)
 TC0002



Taina Cruz
Stand in your truth, 2022
 acrylic on canvas
 14 x 10 in (35.6 x 25.4 cm)
 TC0001



Taina Cruz
Feel it in the atmosphere, 2022
Oil on canvas
12 x 9 in (30.5 x 22.9 cm)
TC0004



Taina Cruz
Enjoy the ride, 2022
Oil on canvas
18 x 24 in (45.7 x 61 cm)
TC0003



Taina Cruz

Being brought up from the water, she buried her natural self, 2022

Soft pastel on paper

55 x 42 in (139.7 x 106.7 cm)

TC0005



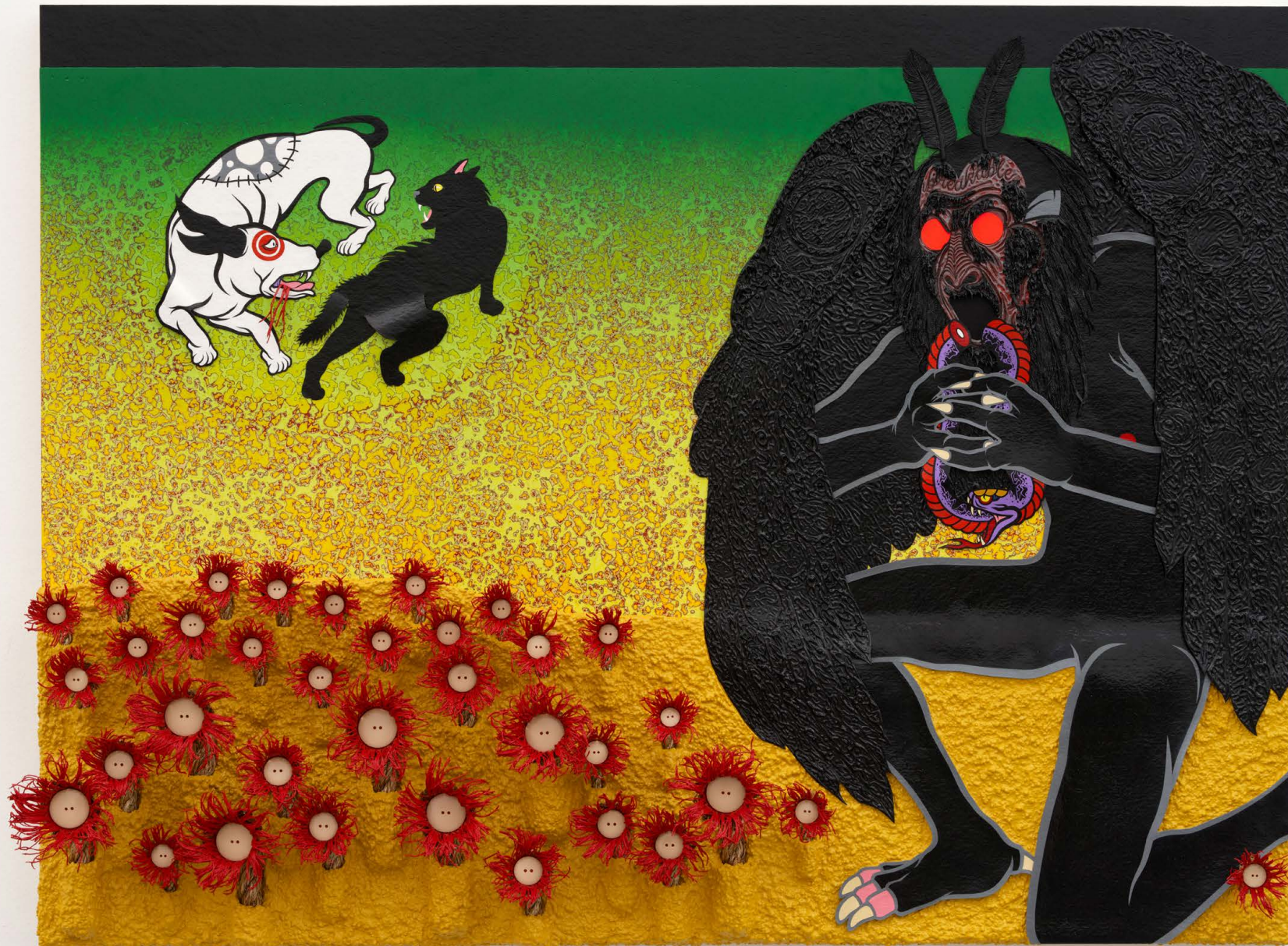
Jordy Greenblatt

Bottom of the Sea, 2020-2021

Canvas collage, acrylic, ink, sand, string, glue, spray paint, 1-inch tall wooden blocks,
and masonite on wood

36 x 48 in (91.4 x 121.9 cm)

JG0001



Jordy Greenblatt

The Omen (Portrait of the Mothman), 2021-2022

Canvas collage, acrylic, ink, granular gel, rope, spray paint, and buttons on wood

36 x 48 in (91.4 x 121.9 cm)

JG0002



Taha Heydari
The Family, 2021
Acrylic on canvas
72 x 95 in (182.9 x 241.3 cm)
THY0001



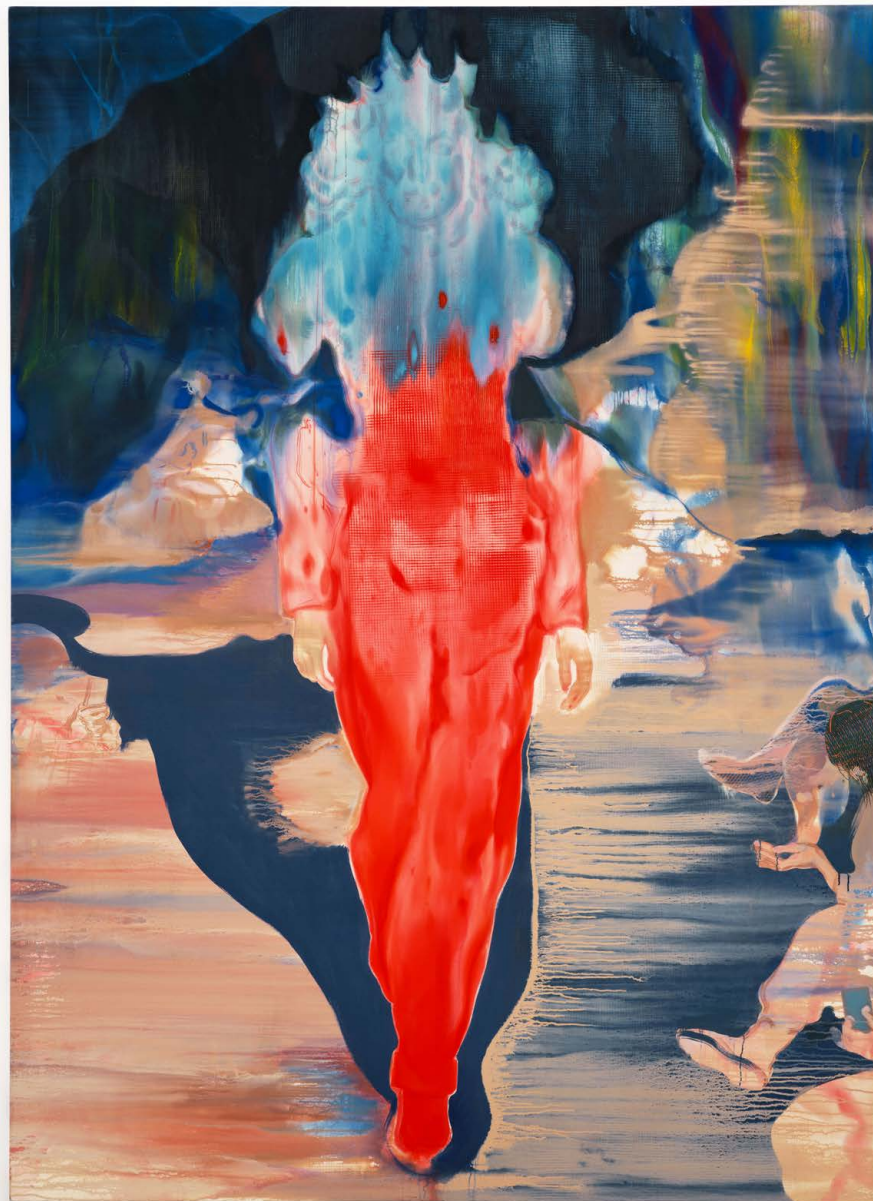
Taha Heydari
Burning Wednesday, 2022
acrylic on canvas
80 x 94 in (203.2 x 238.8 cm)
THY0002



Taha Heydari
8 bit rug, 2022
Acrylic on canvas
98 x 84 in (248.9 x 213.4 cm)
THY0006



Taha Heydari
Runway, 2022
Acrylic on canvas
110 x 76 in (279.4 x 193 cm)
THY0003



Taha Heydari
Shahpour Cave, 2022
Acrylic on canvas
115 x 84 in (292.1 x 213.4 cm)
THY0004



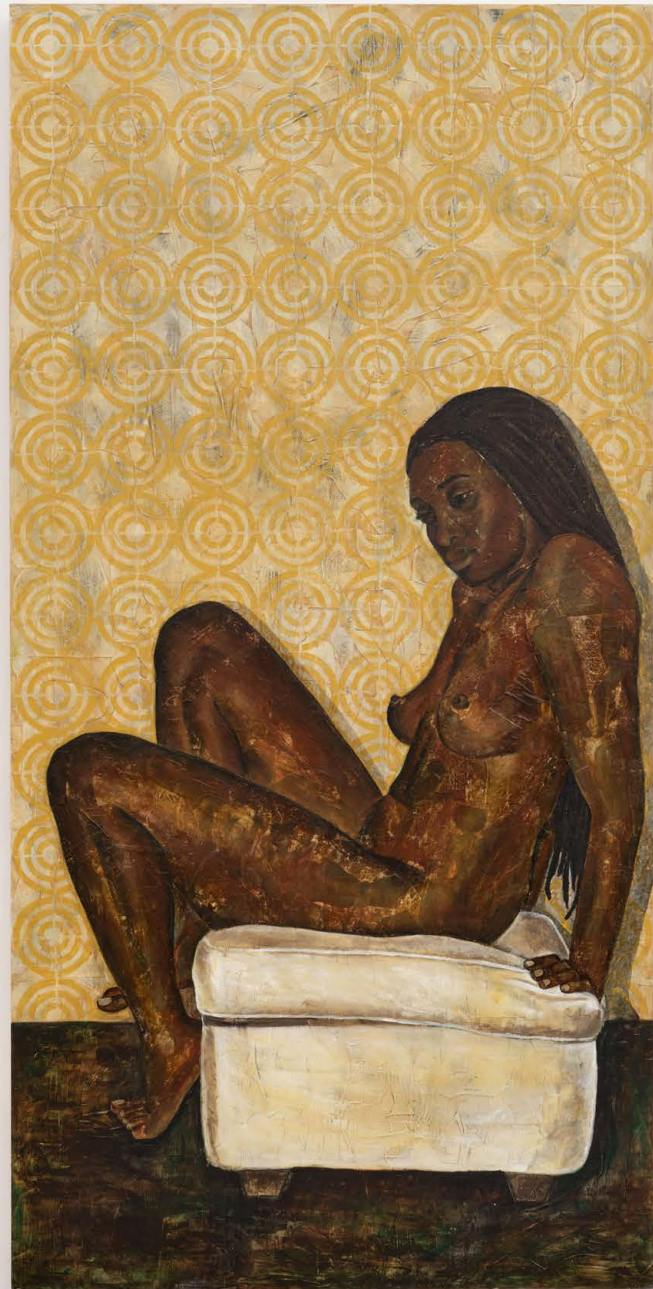
LaToya Hobbs
Untitled, 2022
Acrylic and collaged paper on carved wood panel
36 x 24 in (91.4 x 61 cm)
LH0003



LaToya Hobbs
Untitled, 2022
Acrylic and collaged paper on carved wood panel
36 x 24 in (91.4 x 61 cm)
LH0004



LaToya Hobbs
Targeted Focus, 2022
Acrylic and collaged paper on carved wood panel
48 x 60 in (121.9 x 152.4 cm)
LH0002



LaToya Hobbs
a more nuanced perspective, 2012
Acrylic, ink and collaged paper on wood panel
96 x 48 in (243.8 x 121.9 cm)
LH0001



Ariston S. Jacks

The Alchemist, 2019

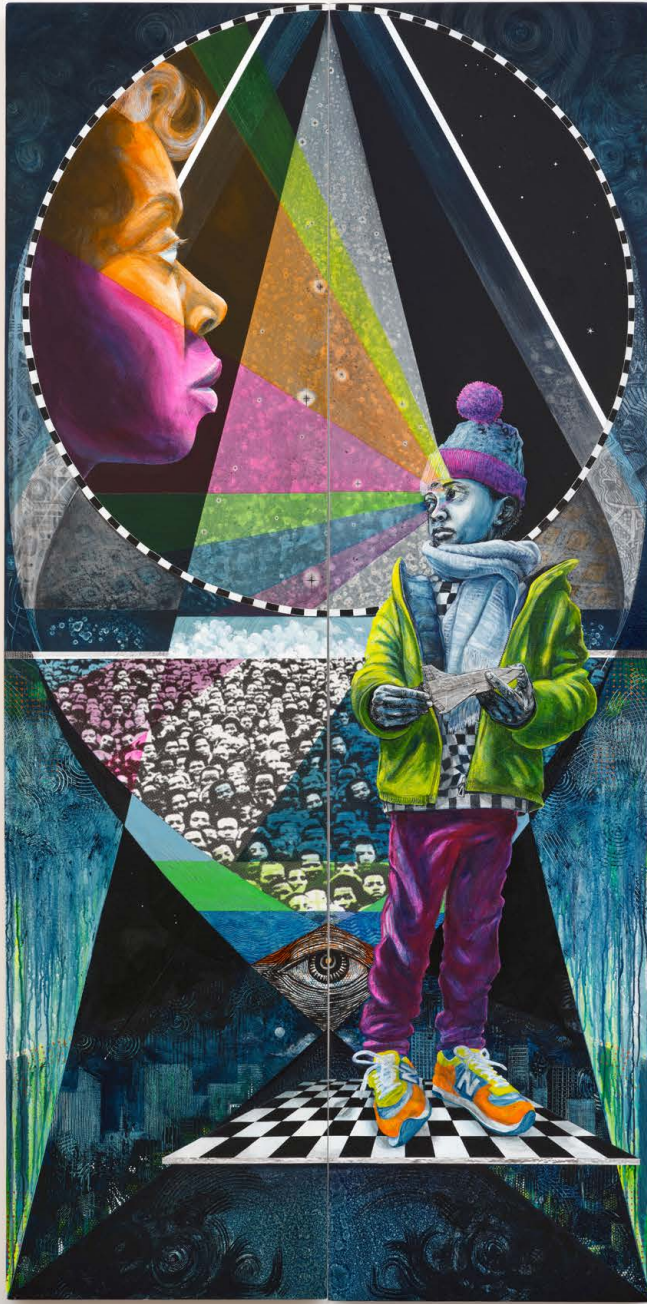
Acrylic, Ink, and China Marker on paper

14 x 12 x 2 in (35.6 x 30.5 x 5.1 cm) Framed

ASJ0003



Ariston S. Jacks
Sun Son, 2022
Ink, Acrylic and on Arches aquarelle paper
42 x 30 in (106.7 x 76.2 cm)
ASJ0002



Ariston S. Jacks
Omni-Lith (Mother and Child), 2022
Acrylic, ink, and collaged paper on wood panel
96 x 48 x 3 in (243.8 x 121.9 x 7.6 cm)
ASJ0001



Amani Lewis
Grandma's Hands, 2021-2022
Acrylic, pastel, glitter and digital collage on canvas
78 x 56 in (198.1 x 142.2 cm)
AML0001



Devin N Morris

From Behind the Poplar Grove, 2021

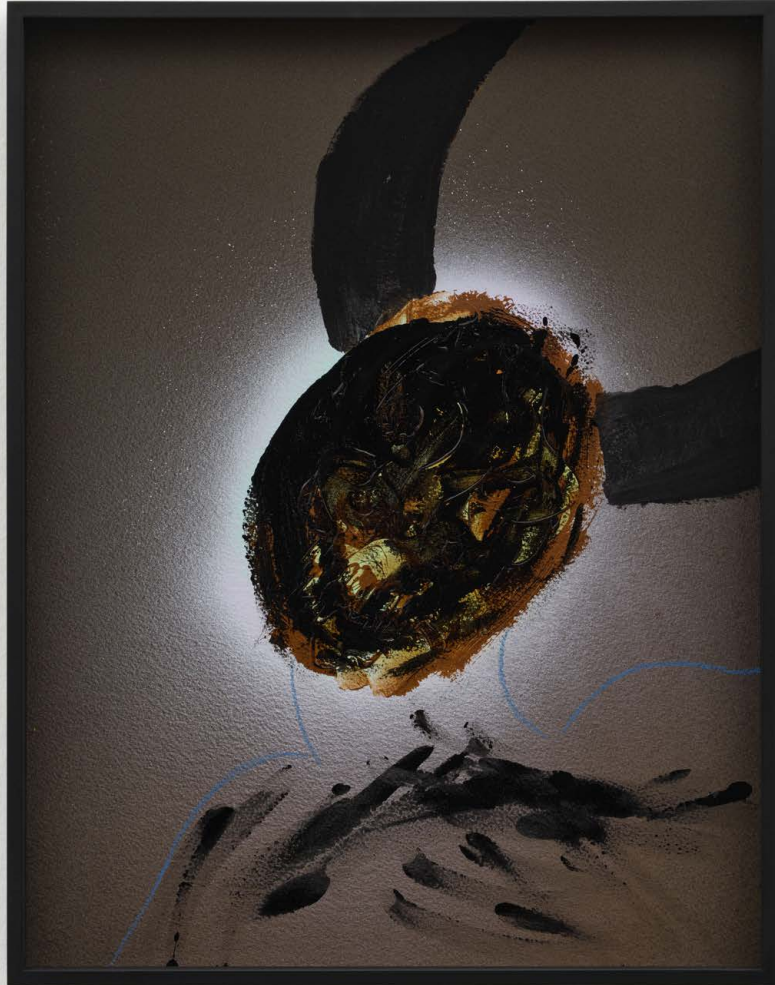
Oil, acrylic, oil pastel, wood veneer, color pencil, collage, felt,
water hose, pastel, paint skin, single use plastic bag,
polypropylene webbing, MDF on paper
88 x 64.5 x 2 in (223.5 x 163.8 x 5.1 cm)
DNM0001



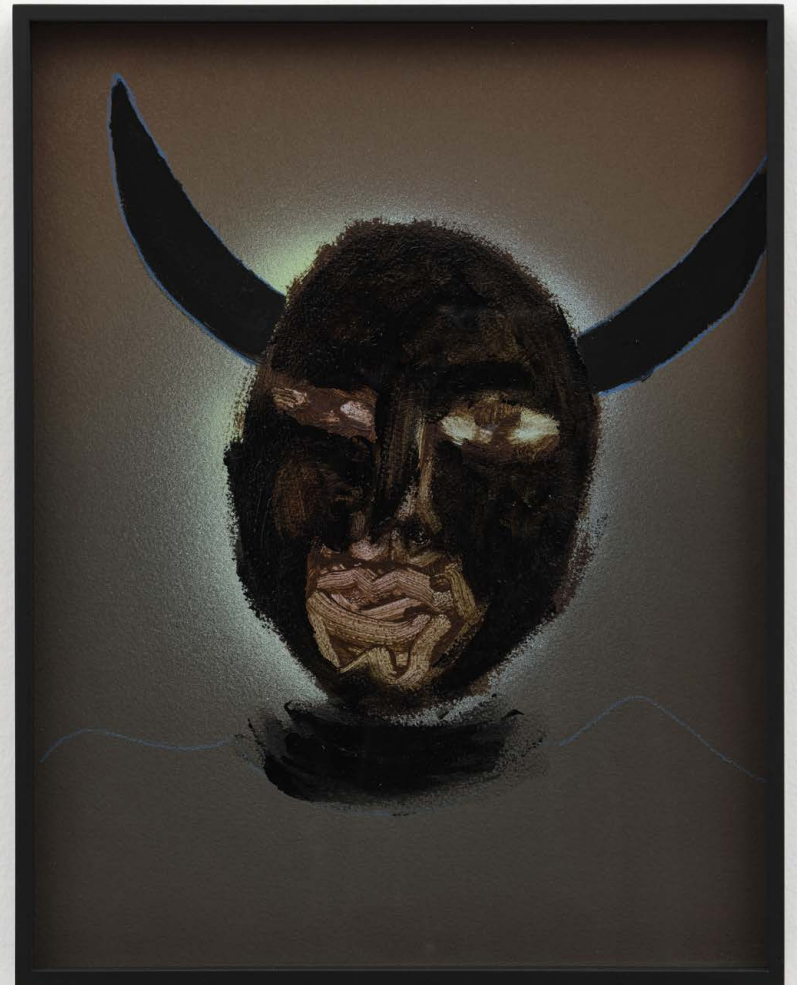
Antonio Scott Nichols
Also, Those Who Stay Will Make History, 2022
Oil on canvas
48 x 48 in (121.9 x 121.9 cm)
ASN0002



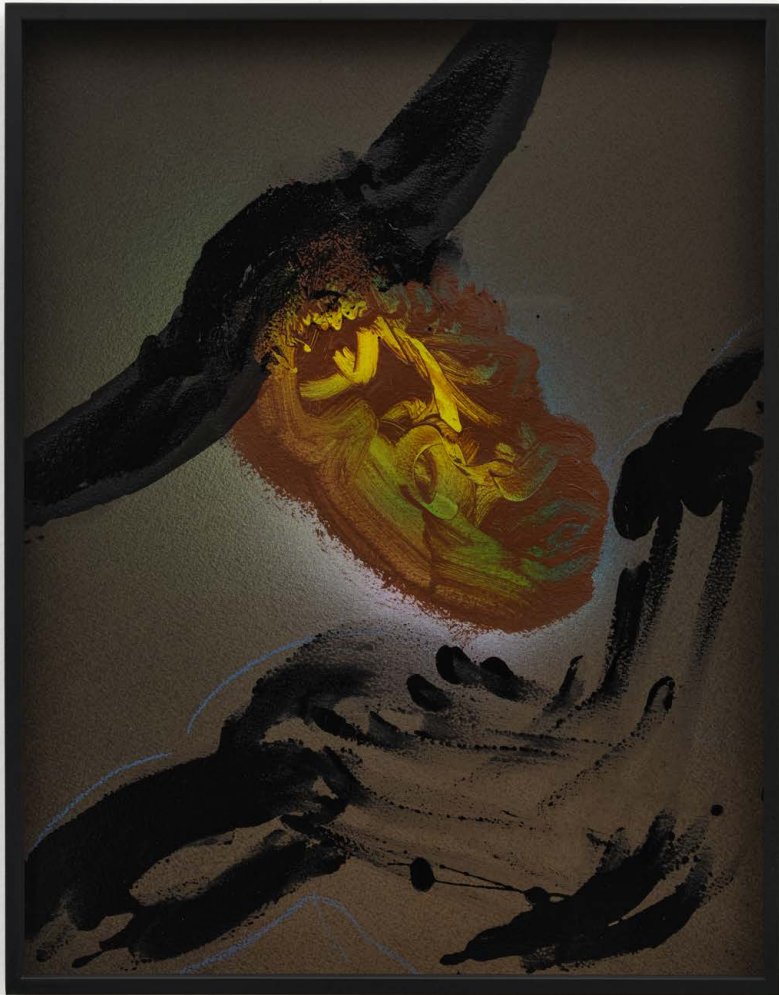
Antonio Scott Nichols
What if We Went To Saturn, 2022
Oil on canvas
72 x 48 in (182.9 x 121.9 cm)
ASN0001



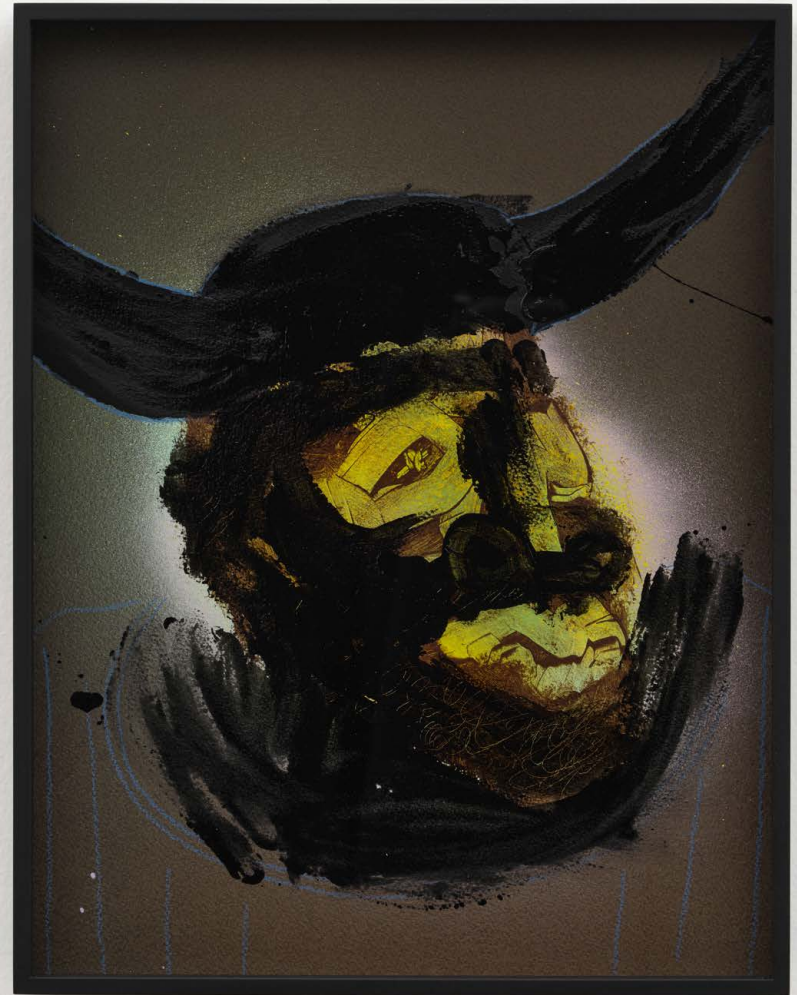
Curtis Talwst Santiago
Untitled, 2022
Mixed media on paper
18 x 14 in (45.7 x 35.6 cm)
CTS0007



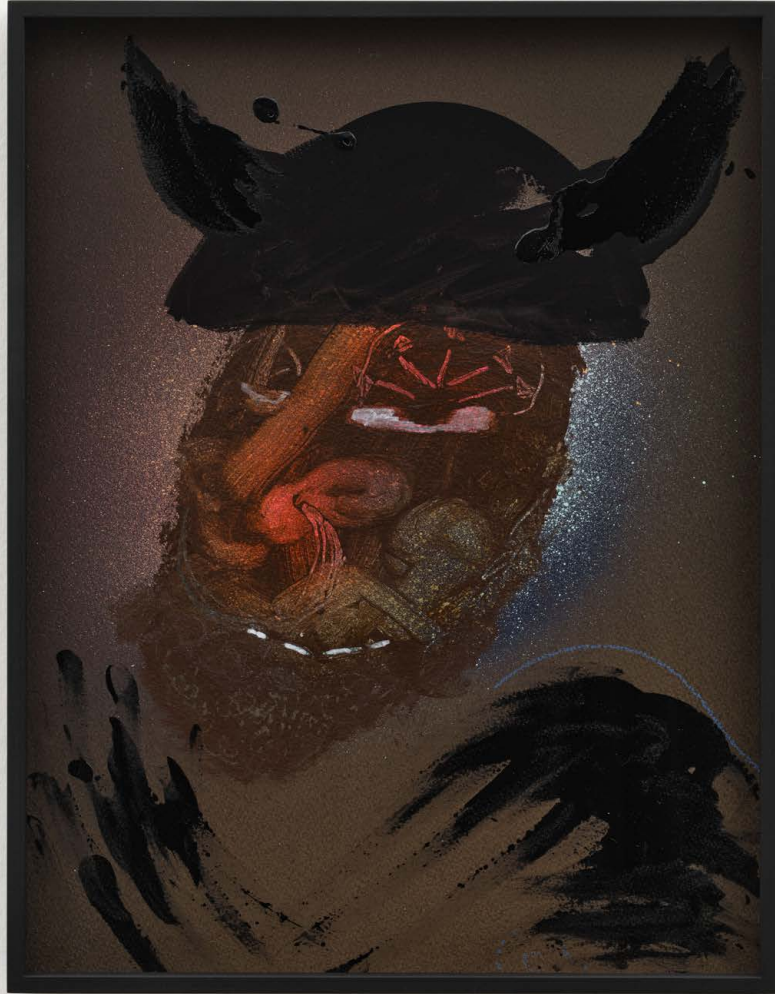
Curtis Talwst Santiago
Untitled, 2022
Mixed media on paper
18 x 14 in (45.7 x 35.6 cm)
CTS0002



Curtis Talwst Santiago
Untitled, 2022
Mixed media on paper
18 x 14 in (45.7 x 35.6 cm)
CTS0009



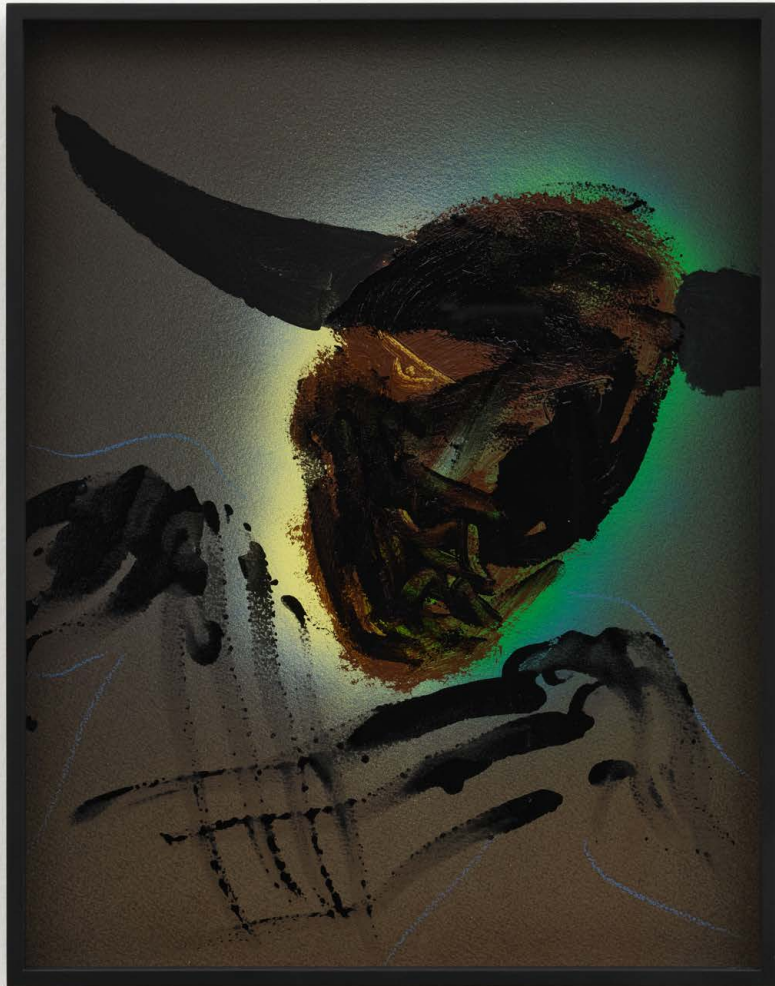
Curtis Talwst Santiago
Untitled, 2022
Mixed media on paper
18 x 14 in (45.7 x 35.6 cm)
CTS0006



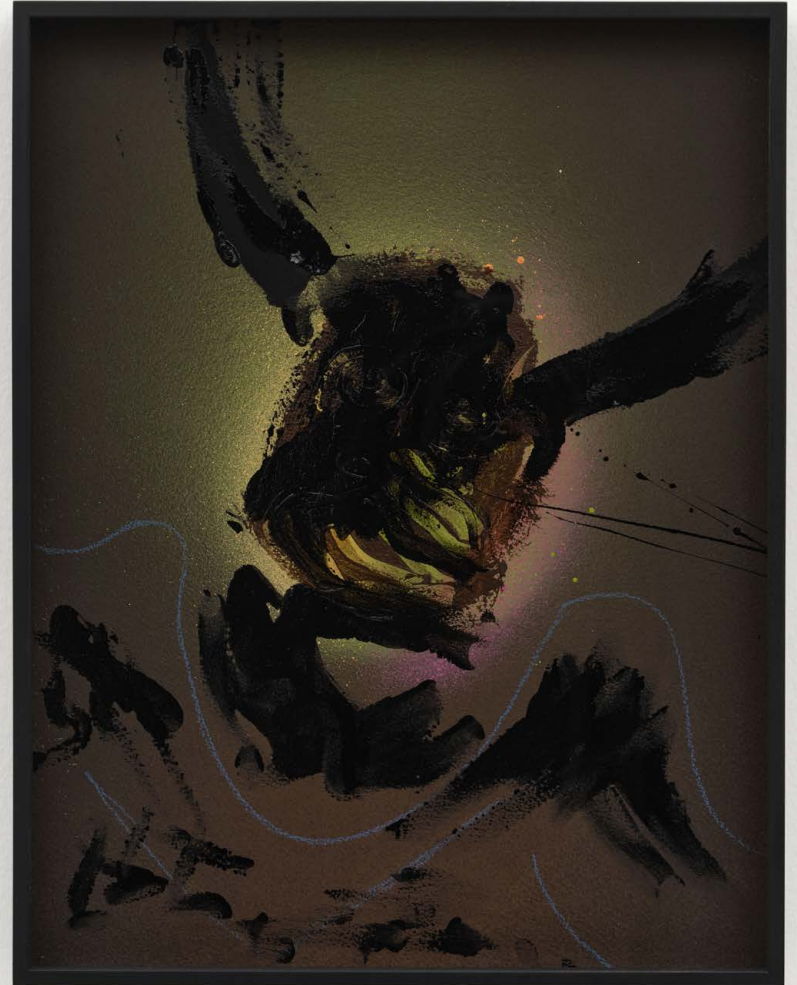
Curtis Talwst Santiago
Untitled, 2022
Mixed media on paper
18 x 14 in (45.7 x 35.6 cm)
CTS0003



Curtis Talwst Santiago
Untitled, 2022
Mixed media on paper
18 x 14 in (45.7 x 35.6 cm)
CTS0004



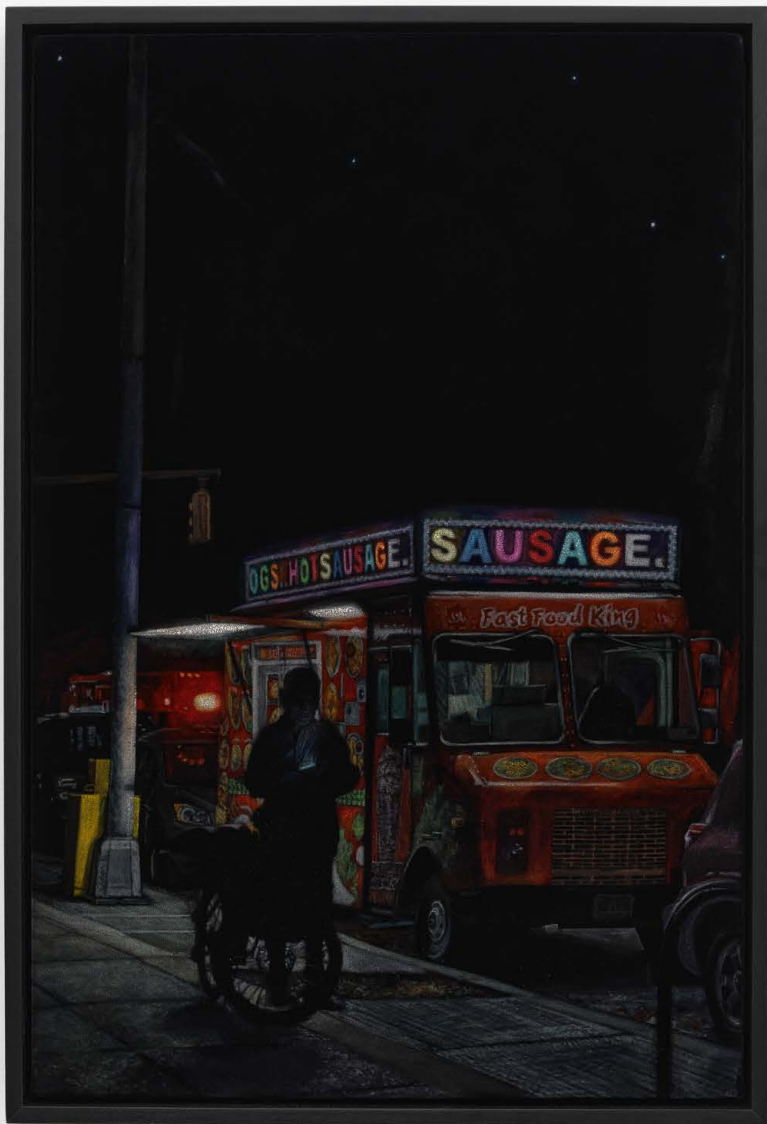
Curtis Talwst Santiago
Untitled, 2022
Mixed media on paper
18 x 14 in (45.7 x 35.6 cm)
CTS0001



Curtis Talwst Santiago
Untitled, 2022
Mixed media on paper
18 x 14 in (45.7 x 35.6 cm)
CTS0008



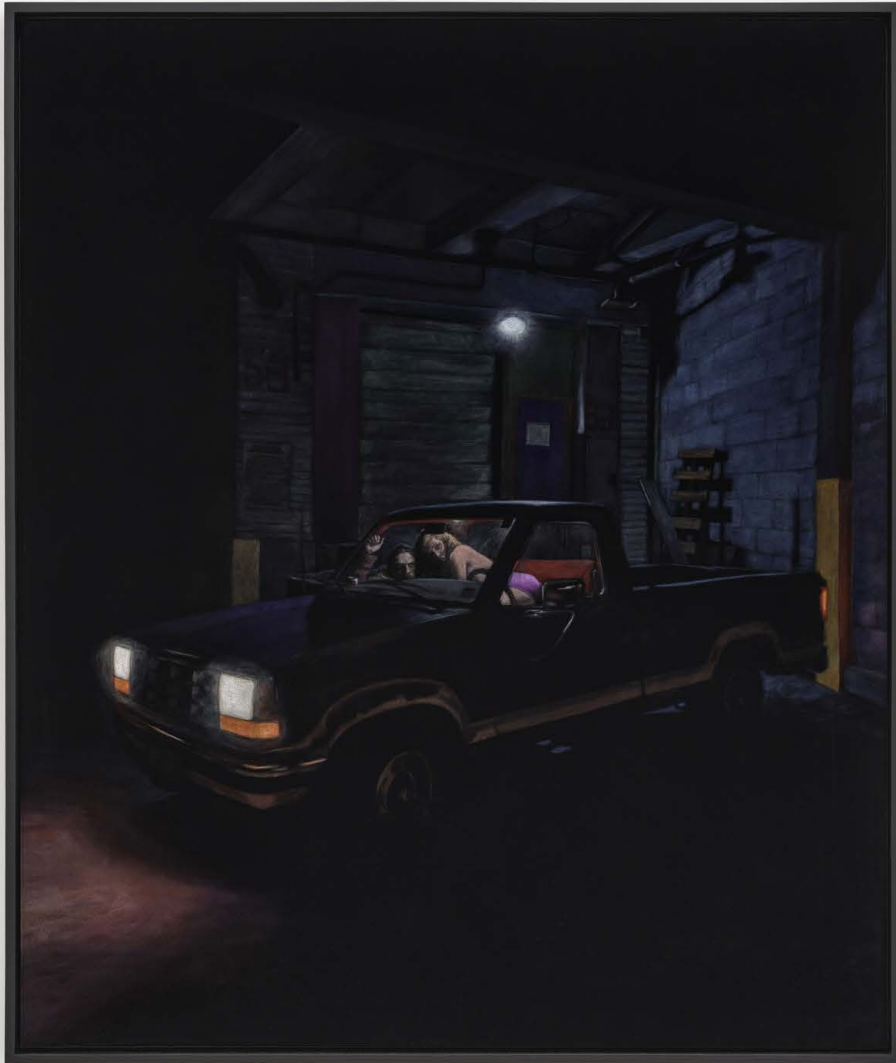
Curtis Talwst Santiago
Untitled, 2022
Mixed media on paper
18 x 14 in (45.7 x 35.6 cm)
CTS0005



Tony Shore
Sausage Truck, 2022
Acrylic on velvet
30 x 20 in (76.2 x 50.8 cm)
TS0003



Tony Shore
Dean's Shaved Ice, 2022
Acrylic on velvet
18 x 14 in (45.7 x 35.6 cm)
TS0004



Tony Shore
The Pick Up, 2018
acrylic on velvet
50 x 42 in (127 x 106.7 cm)
TS0001



Tony Shore
Tracy Adkins Park, 2009
Acrylic on velvet
60 x 42 in (152.4 x 106.7 cm)
TS0002



Shan Wallace
Miss Rebecca's at Midnight, 2021
collage, constructed & textured paper, acrylic
on paper
38 x 50 in (96.5 x 127 cm)
SHANW0002



Shan Wallace
TBD #1, 2022
Edition 1 of 3
Photography
20 x 30 in (50.8 x 76.2 cm)
SHANW0004



Shan Wallace
TBD #2, 2022
Edition 1 of 3
Photography
22 x 14 in (55.9 x 35.6 cm)
SHANW0005



Shan Wallace
And I Love Her, 2021
collage, constructed & textured paper, acrylic on paper
32 x 40 in (81.3 x 101.6 cm)
SHANW0003



Shan Wallace
Girls on the Avenue, 2021
collage, constructed paper, acrylic on paper
23 x 30 in (58.4 x 76.2 cm)
SHANW0001



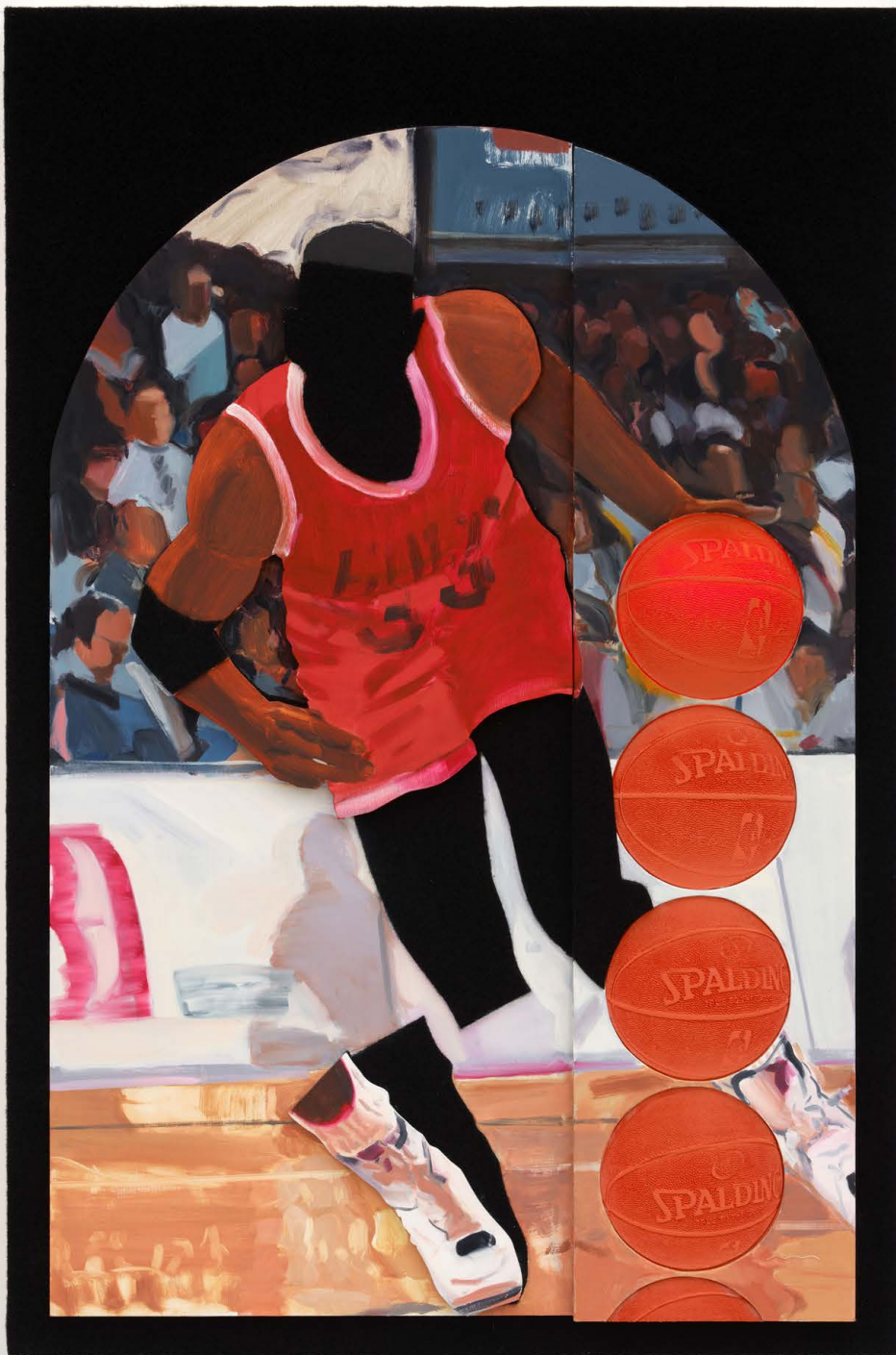
James Williams II
Smoke on Signal (di-di-dit dah-dah-dah di-di-dit), 2022
Velcro, resin, oil on panel and canvas
21 x 24 in (53.3 x 61 cm)
JW110002



James Williams II
Floating, 2020
Velcro, felt, raspberry pi, LCD screen, and oil on panel
21 x 24 in (53.3 x 61 cm)
JWII0004



James Williams II
Animist, 2022
velcro, resin, oil on canvas and panel
38 x 59.5 in (96.5 x 151.1 cm)
JWII0001



James Williams II
Trippin, 2022
Velcro, polylactic acid, lightbulb
41 x 27.25 in (104.1 x 69.2 cm)
JWII0003



Monsieur Zohore
Western, 1937-2022
Mixed Media on Canvas
72 x 144 in (182.9 x 365.8 cm)
MZ0001

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