

The Good Ship and Blackbird Rook presents...

**A PLAYGROUND IN THE FACTORY**  
**PAUL HOUSLEY**

10th November - 3rd December 2023

Persistence Works, 21 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS. Thur. – Sat., 11 – 4pm

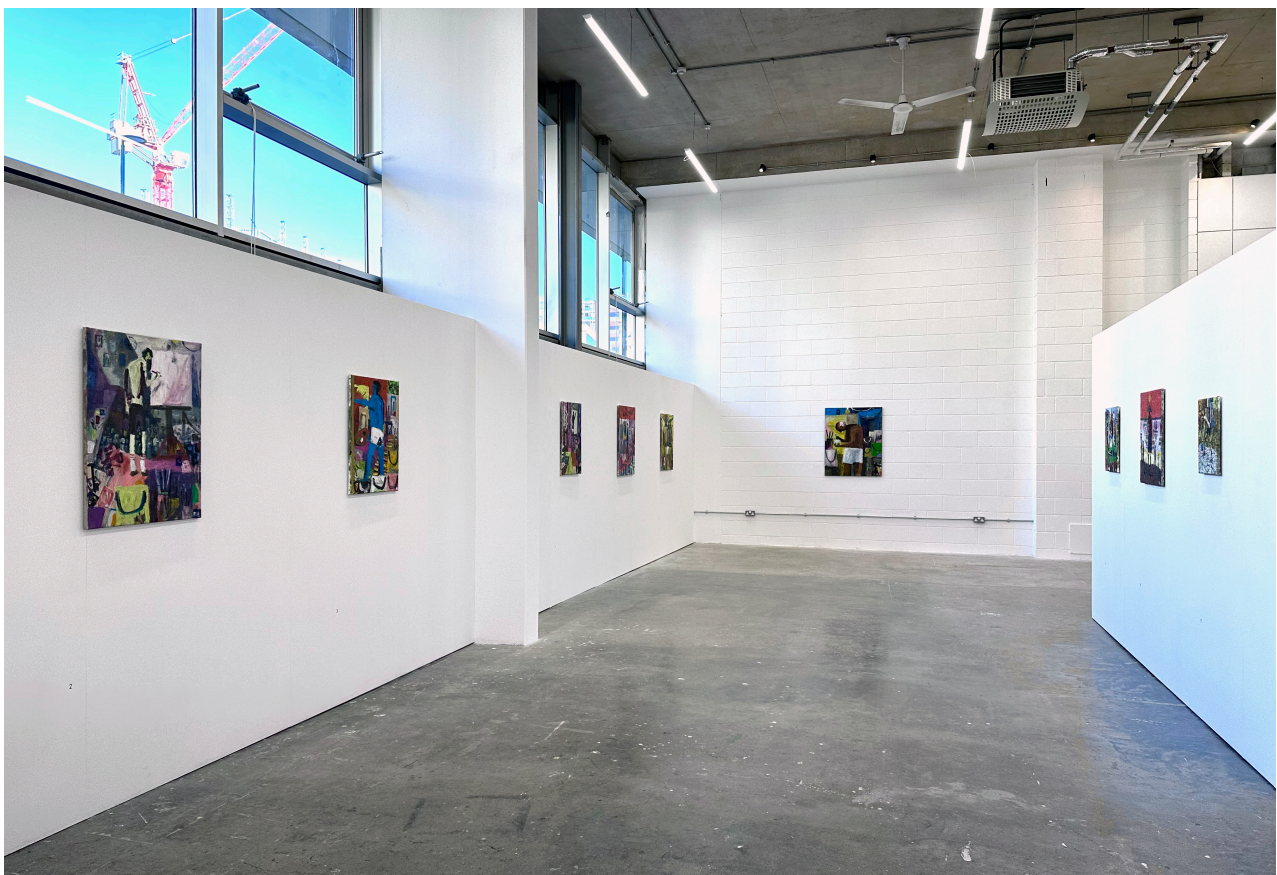
Paul Housley, himself an alumni of Sheffield City Polytechnic (1983-86) brings a series of new works to Sheffield's art factory - Yorkshire Artspace. The exhibition, A Playground in the Factory, is Housley's first in the city for over 20 years. Widely collected and respected, Housley's expressive canvases capture low-key subject matter on a humble scale including – most recently, the contents of his painting studio.

*Characters, places and memories inhabit the studio, it's a place of constant flux. Ideas and motifs, new possibilities and dead ends, the studio contains them all, it's simply a race against the clock to unearth as many as I can.*

*I was good at two things at school, staring out the window and watching the clock. In actuality, there was a third: drawing, which was a bit like doing both those things at once. Time and daydreaming, work and play, chaos and discipline. These are the things that have shaped my existence.*

*Art became my way of navigating life. I didn't want a job but I got a job, I became an Artist, which didn't seem like a job at all, but ended up an all consuming project with ridiculous long badly paid hours. From school to art school to studio I built my own factory in my own playground and a lazy boy became a work obsessive, but it had to be my work and my play.*

Paul Housley





# A PLAYGROUND IN THE FACTORY



The Good Ship and Blackbird Rook presents...

## Paul Housley

Yorkshire Artspace, Persistence Works

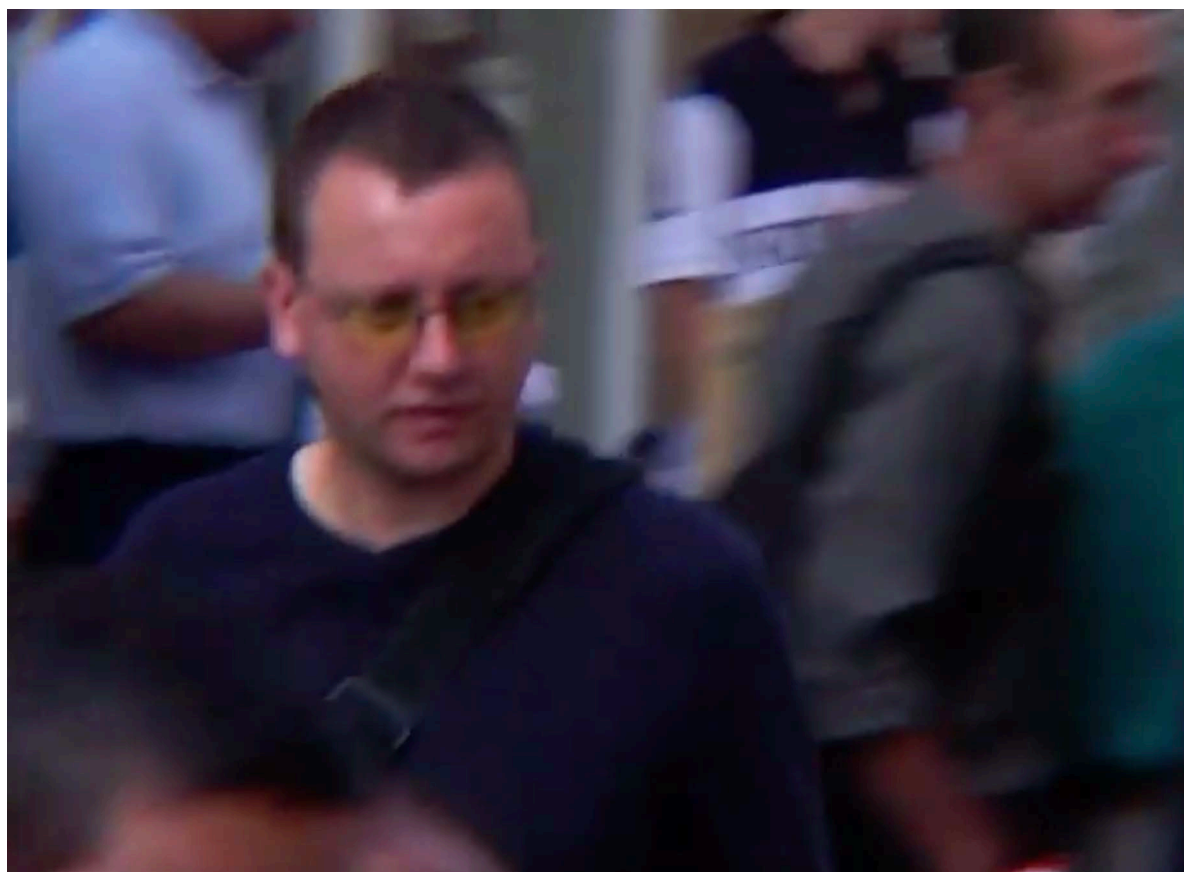
Thurs to Sat - 11am - 4pm

10/11 - 03/12/23

## PAUL HOUSLEY

Paul Housley (b.1964, Stalybridge, UK), graduated with a BA in Fine Art at Sheffield City Polytechnic in 1986, and a MA in Painting from the Royal College of Art in 1995. Deep in the formalities of oil paint, Paul's work refracts his world and those phenomena that catch his eye. Reaped from the flow of our modernity, the social lives, histories, and restive objet de désir, pictured in Paul's paintings recall those kaleidoscopic moments captured by the poetic M.G., Baudelaire's modernist legend. Paul lives and works in London.

Select exhibitions include: Elbow, Eye and Clock, Bark Berlin Gallery, Berlin (2023); The Poets Elbow, Belmacz (2020); Slow Painting, Hayward Gallery Touring, curated by Martin Herbert, Leeds Art Gallery, Leeds (2019); The Player Becomes the Game, Monte Clark Gallery, Vancouver (2019); If I Was Your Girlfriend: A Jam, Belmacz, London (2018); Dice. Apple. Knife duo exhibition with Joel Tomlin, Sothebys, Stockholm (2018); Snooker Room, new jörg, Vienna (2017); Between Things, University of Chichester, Chichester, God & Sausages (curated by Maria Georgoula), Stoa Zerbini, Athens (2017); Awkward, Anna Zorina Gallery, New York (2017); Factory to Palace, Sid Motion Gallery, London (2016); Mini Bar, Farbvision, Berlin (2016); Journeys to the Interior, Belmacz, London (2015); Concrete/ Oblique, David Risley Gallery, Copenhagen (2014), Fourth Drawer Down at Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham (2014). Studio Stories, Galleria Bianca, Palermo (2014); They Bloom at Night, Belmacz, London (2013).

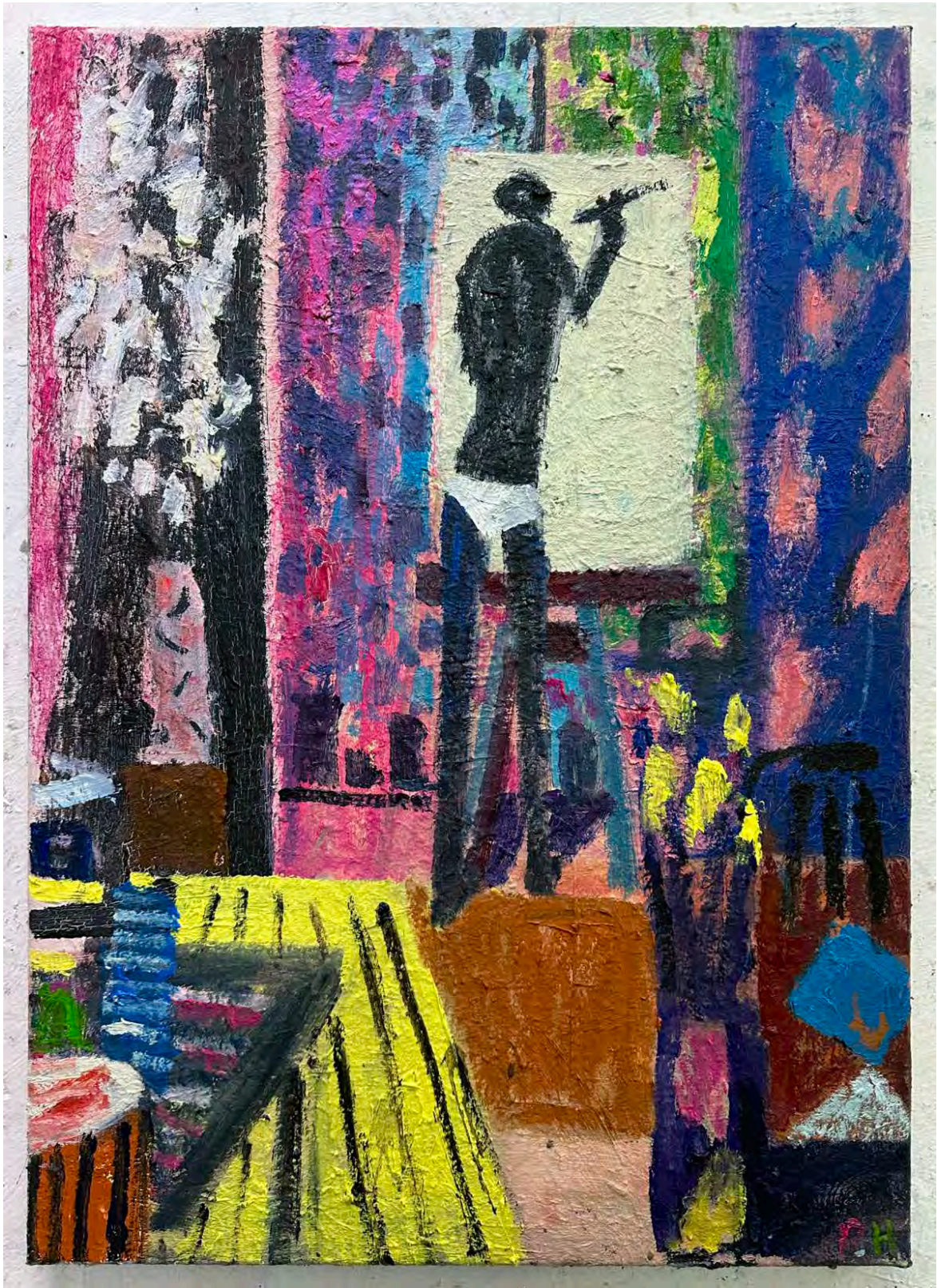






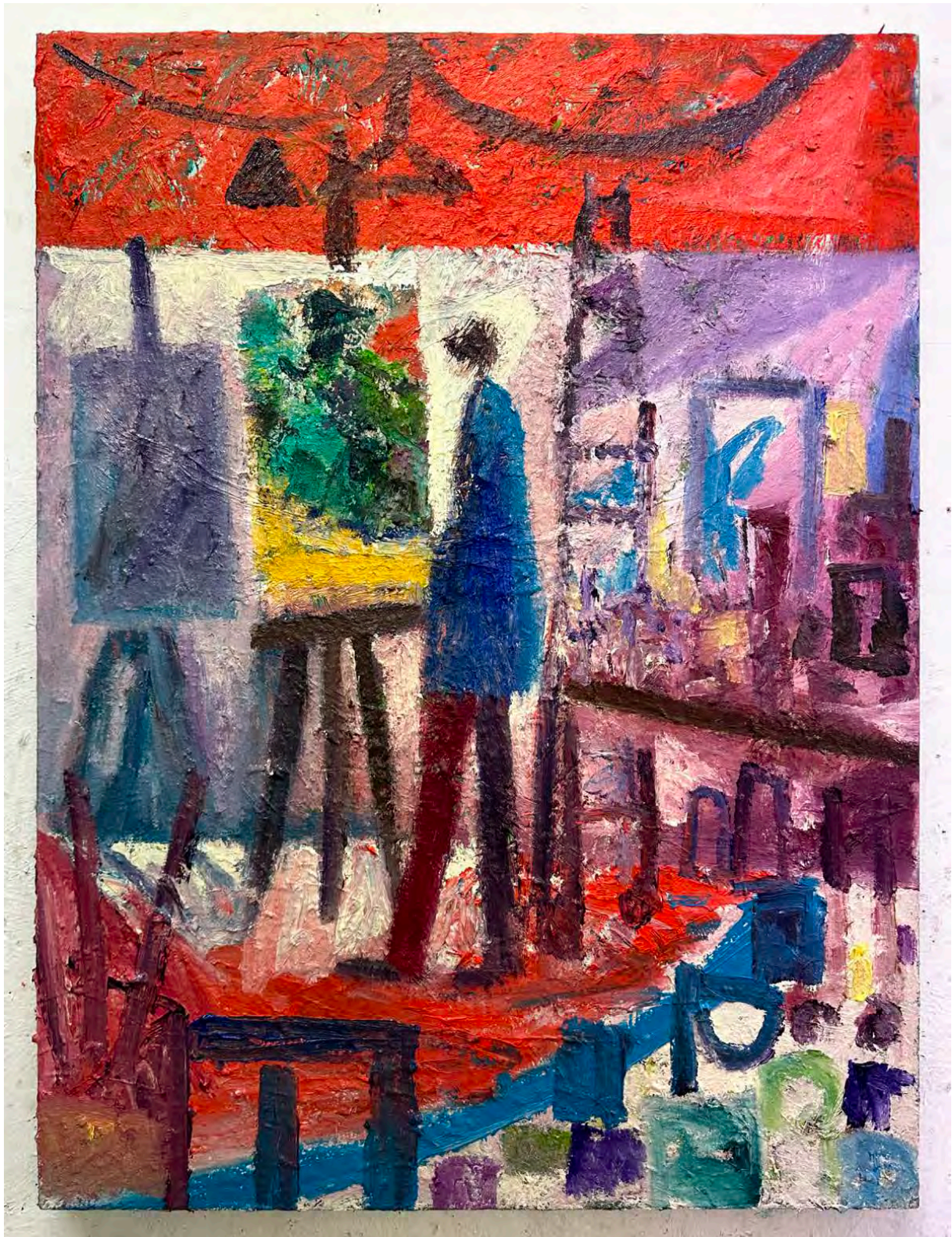
Asleep in the Dream Factory, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
80 x 60cm





Summer Studio, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
70 x 50cm





The Red Studio, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
80 x 60cm





The Old Painter, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
100 x 80cm





Circle as Mirror, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
76 x 61cm





Mud pusher, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
40 x 30cm





Blue Painter, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
70 x 50cm





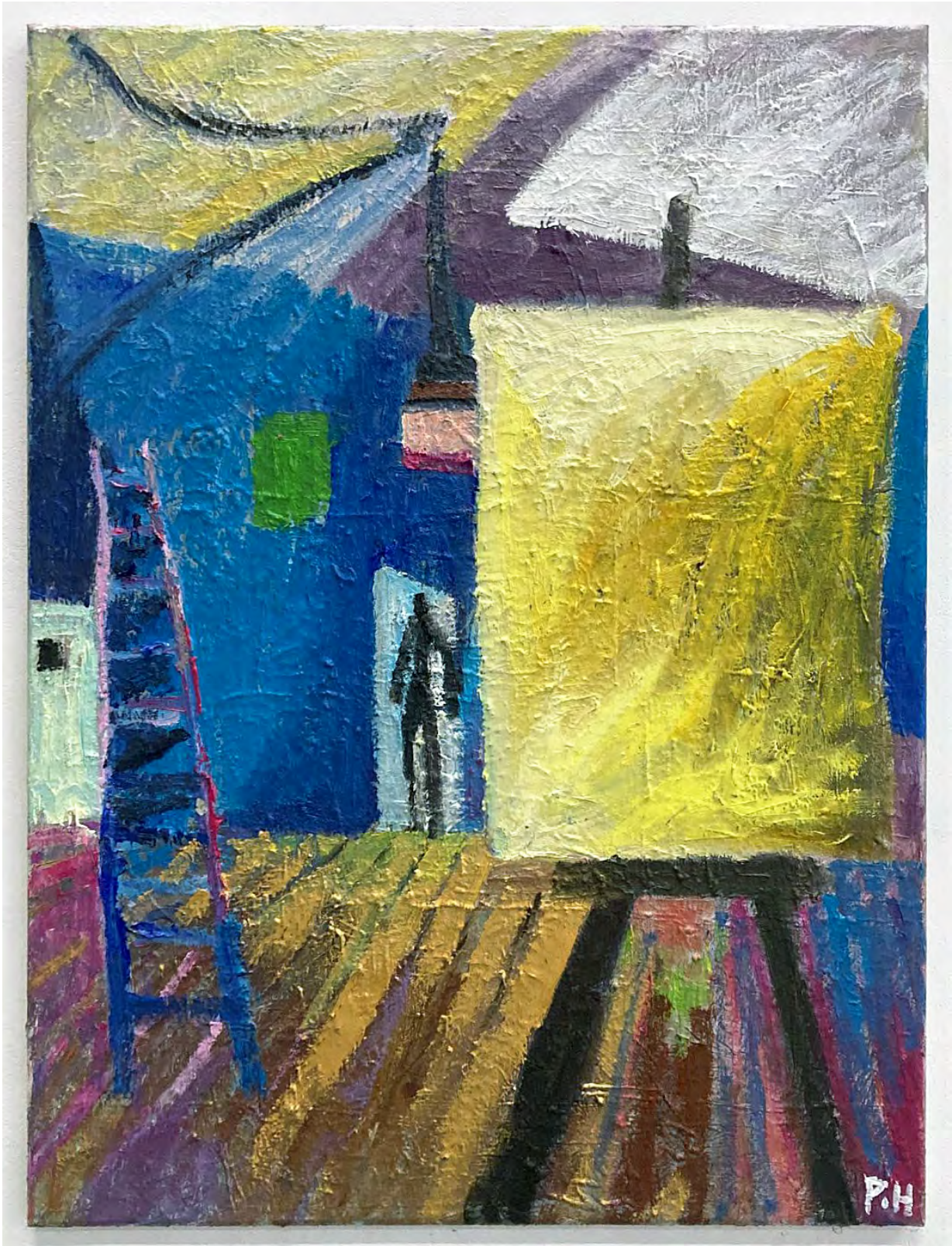
Weapons of Choice, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
80 x 60cm





Autumn Studio, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
80 x 60cm





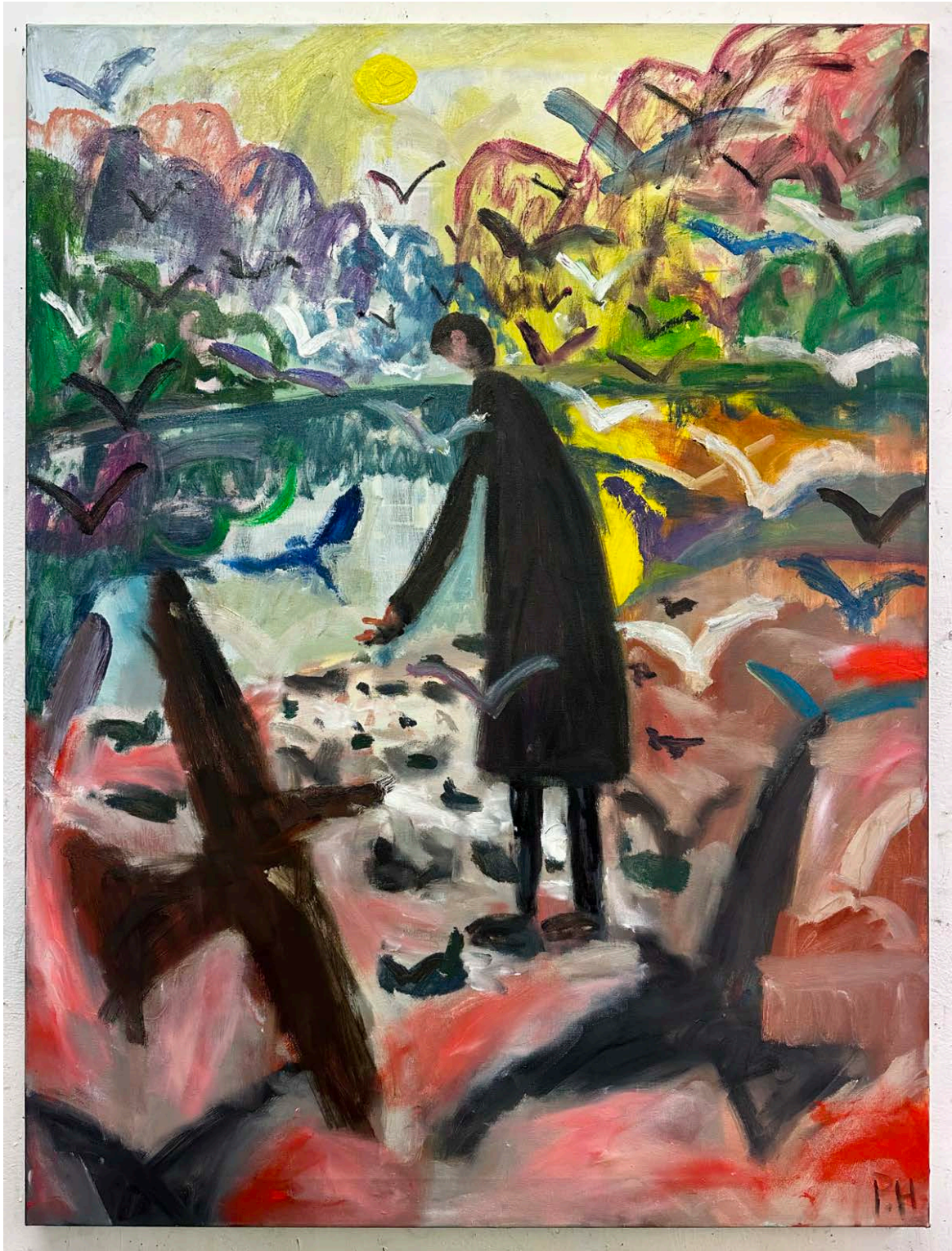
**Spring Studio, 2023**  
Oil on canvas  
60 x 80cm





Space Invaders, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
100 x 80cm





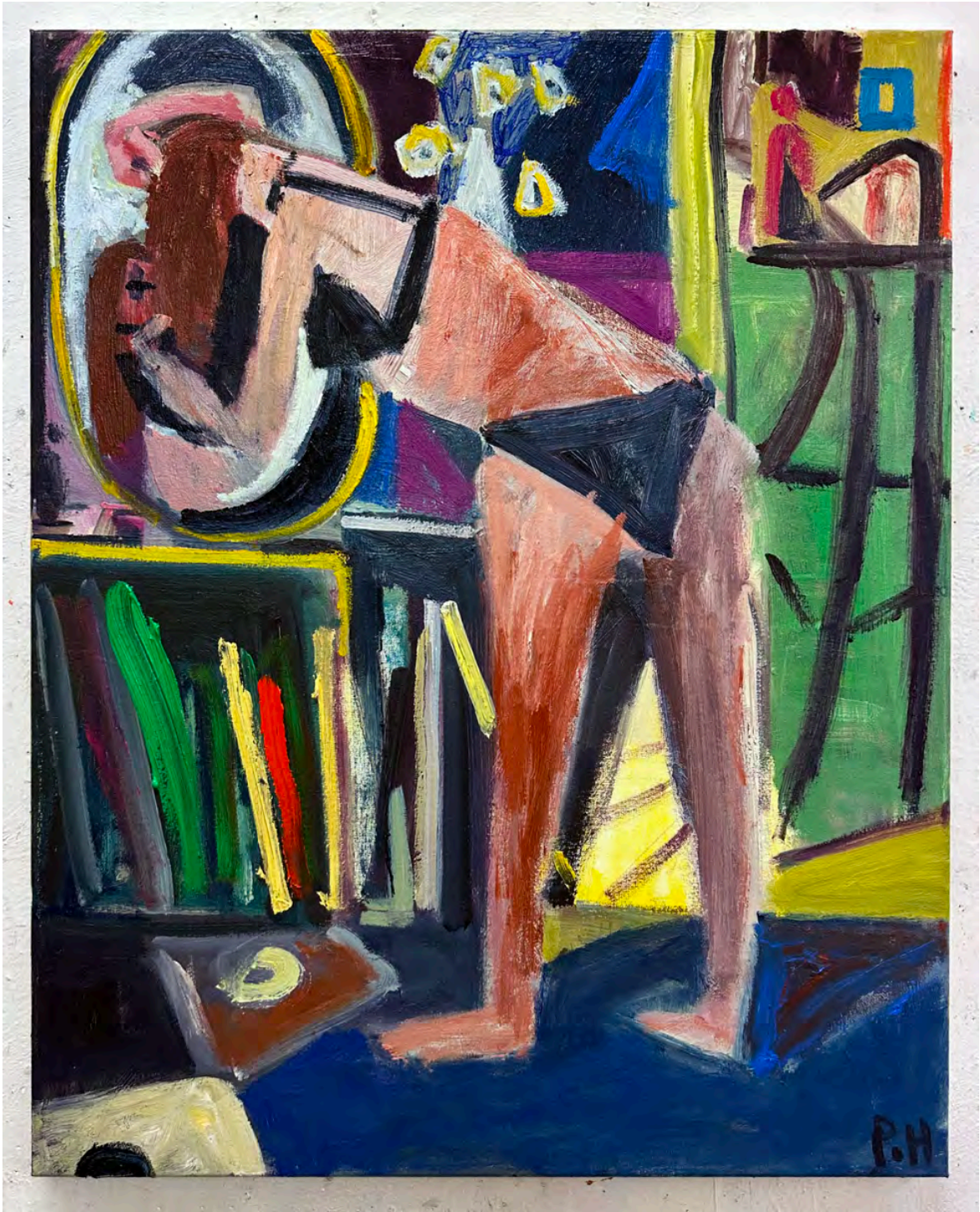
This Time Next Year, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
121.5 x 91cm





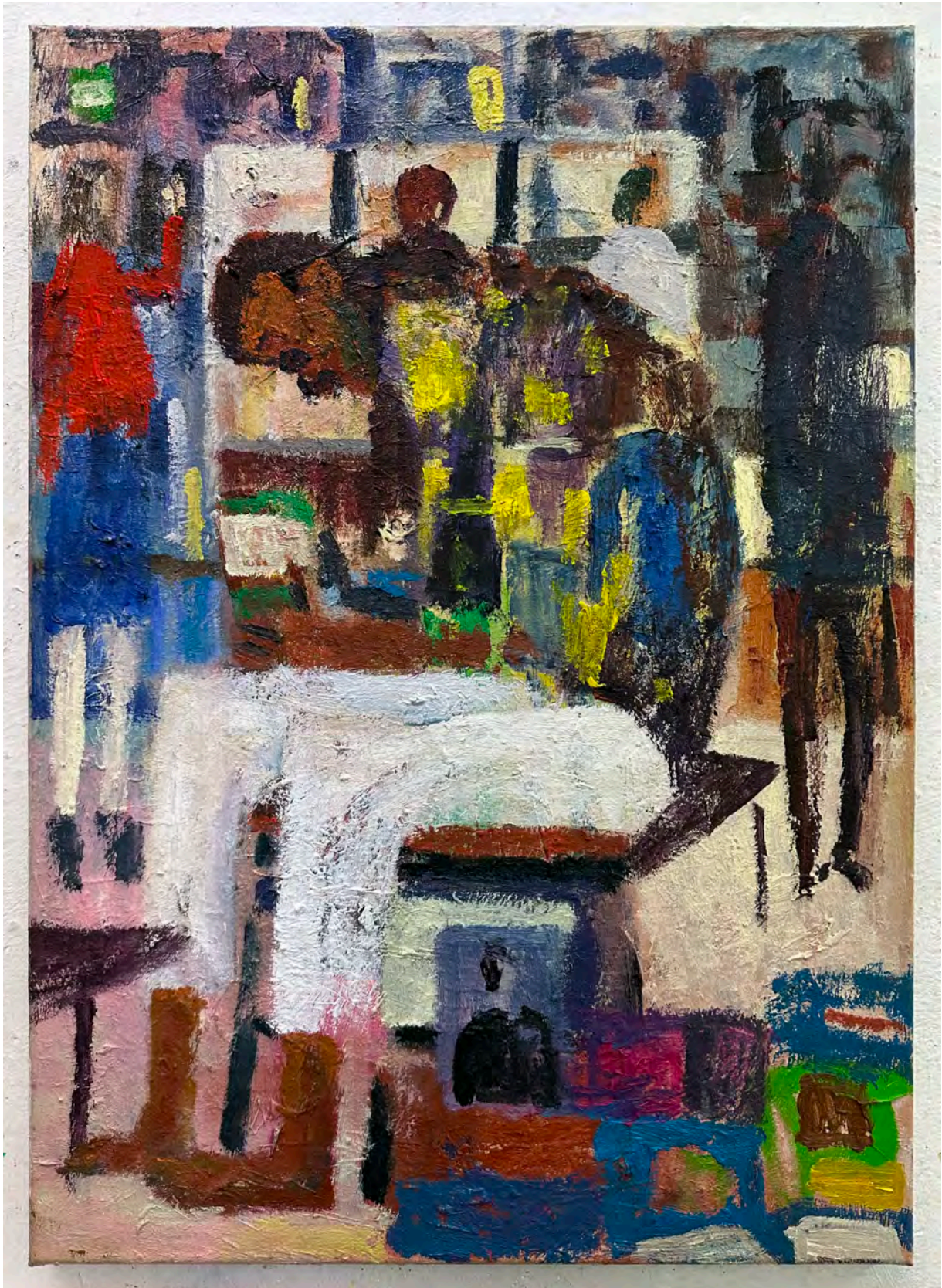
Watching Ships Go By, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
60 x 50cm





Venus with Mirror, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
76 x 61cm





Barefoot in the Bookstore, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
70 x 50cm





Yellow Studio, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
50 x 40cm





The Working Man digs a grave for the Death of Painting, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
50 x 40cm





The Family, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
60 x 46cm





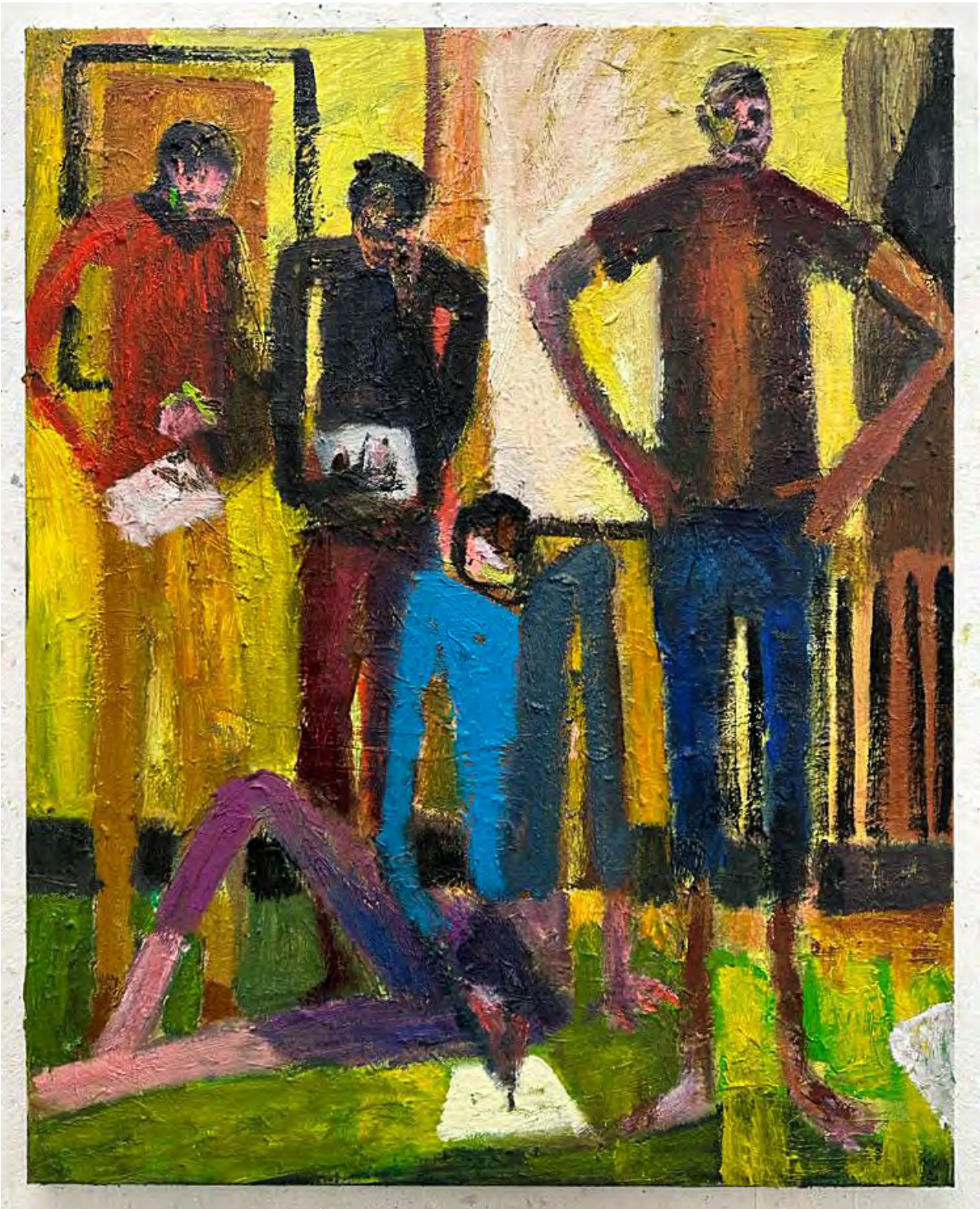
**Painting Crows, 2023**  
Oil on canvas  
50 x 61cm





**Love, Peace and Understanding, 2023**  
Oil on canvas  
50 x 60cm





Sketch Club, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
76 x 61cm





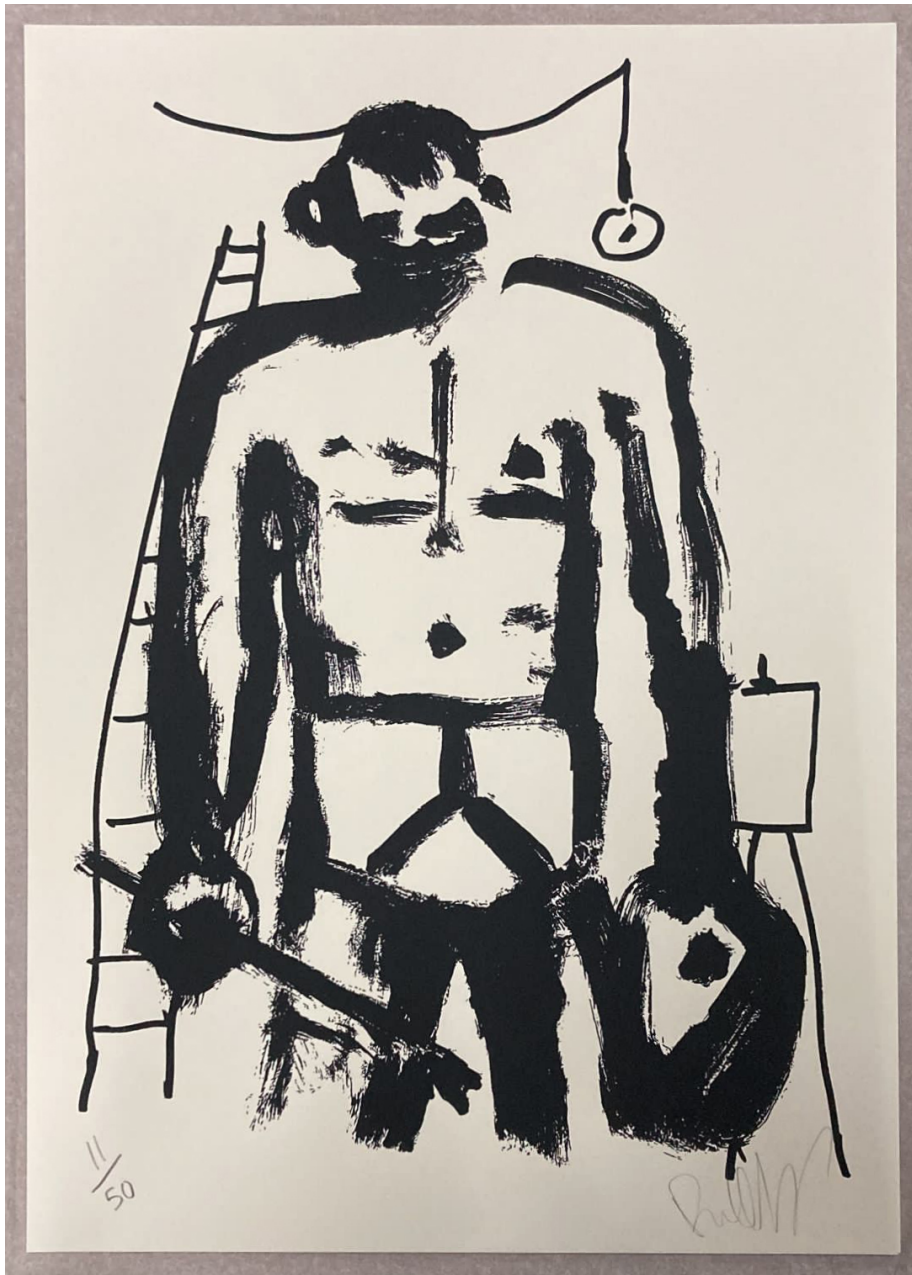
Paint Table, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
60 x 80cm





Player Becomes the Game, 2023  
Oil on canvas  
50 x 76cm





Limited  
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Edition of 50

11 - 50





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