

HOLLIS TAGGART

Perceived Realities
June 24 – July 25, 2020

Hollis Taggart is pleased to present *Perceived Realities*, a group exhibition curated by Paul Efstathiou, at the gallery's 514 W 25th street location, and featuring works by Margaux Ogden, Matt Mignanelli, and Alexandros Vasmoulakis. The exhibition explores the artists' distinct approaches to abstraction, focusing in particular on their handling of space and form. The gallery is currently open by appointment only, and virtual visits. Efstathiou will host an opening walkthrough of the show on Instagram Live on June 24 at 6:00 PM.

Margaux Ogden creates largely monochromatic, abstract compositions, often done in pastel hues. Fascinated by the slippage between accidental and planned mark-making, Ogden's canvases are a combination of intentional and spontaneous gestures that highlight the process of creating. Ogden's works are further characterized by a sense of fluid motion, as lines, fragmented forms, and blocks of color coalesce, disappear, and re-emerge across the surface plane. This sensation is further emphasized by Ogden's approach to saturating and diluting her paint and her application on raw, unprimed canvas.

Ogden's recent solo exhibitions include *Space Never Moved* at Rental in East Hampton, NY (2018), *Nothing Had Yet Been Sacrificed* at Embajada in San Juan, PR (2016); *Chekhov's Gun* at ltd los angeles in Los Angeles, CA (2015); and *Down the Rabbit Hole* at Freight & Volume in New York, NY (2015). She has also been featured in a wide range of group presentations, including those at Hollis Taggart (New York), Tops Gallery (Memphis), and Horse and Pony (Berlin), among others. In 2018, she was the recipient of a Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant. Ogden lives and works in New York City.

Matt Mignanelli's paintings explore the tension between expressionistic, painterly brushstrokes and the geometric precision of architectural elements seen within both urban and natural landscapes. In his new body of work, there is a reduction in the presence of geometric form, widening the expanses of gradated color. Reminiscent of bodies of water or early morning skies, these expansive environments transport us to a place of serenity. The bands of geometry that partition the fields of color inspire questioning about their meaning: are they representative of man-made structures within a landscape or an unknown series of hieroglyphs marking human existence. Equally important to Mignanelli's practice is an examination of the potential and power of the monochrome. In particular, his work embraces a deep saturation of the color blue. While at first glance, his paintings may appear transporting, with stacks of brick-like forms set against the intense color of enamel and house paint, further inspection reveals a thoughtful engagement with light and shadow, depth and density, and spatial perception.

Mignanelli's recent solo exhibitions include *Nocturnes* at Denny Dimin Gallery in New York (2018) and *Power Dynamics* at Dubner Moderne in Lausanne, Switzerland (2018), as well as an ongoing public project of site-specific paintings realized throughout the ground floor of 5 Bryant Park. His work has also been featured in a wide range of group exhibitions including at SCAD Museum (Savannah), The Hole (New York), Anonymous Gallery (Mexico City), Hollis Taggart (New York), LUCE Gallery (Turin), and Richard Heller Gallery (Los Angeles), among others. Mignanelli lives and works in New York City.

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Alexandros Vasmoulakis's practice embraces large-scale wallpapering, painting, collage, and installations that merge and re-mix these various modes. Inspired by Abstract Expressionism, Cubism, graffiti and street art, as well as the visual language of cartoons, Vasmoulakis draws on these different movements and genres to produce dynamic hybrids that draw the eye and engage the viewer. Vasmoulakis's approach is spontaneous; he draws and paints directly on his surfaces, avoiding any advance preparation. This results in a complex layering and erasure that produces dizzying and enigmatic effects.

Vasmoulakis's recent solo exhibitions include *Mind Mischief* (2017) and *The Eaters and The Eaten* (2016) at The Breeder Gallery in Athens, *My eyes are seeing you* at Art Expertise in Athens (2014), and *Figures* at Le Basse Projects in Los Angeles (2013). His work has also been included in a wide range of group exhibitions, including at Fondation Cartier (Paris), Antikenmuseum (Basel), Eighteen Gallery (Copenhagen), and Bozar (Brussels), among others. He lives and works in Athens and Kythnos (GR) and Windsor (UK).

About Hollis Taggart

Founded in 1979, Hollis Taggart presents significant works of American art, showcasing the trajectory of American art movements from the Hudson River School to American Modernism and the Post-War and Contemporary eras. Its program is characterized by a deep commitment to scholarship and bringing to the fore the work of under-recognized artists. The gallery has sponsored several catalogue raisonné projects, most recently for the American Surrealist artist Kay Sage, and has been instrumental in advancing knowledge of such compelling artists as Alfred Maurer, Arthur B. Carles, and more recently, Theodoros Stamos, Marjorie Strider and Michael (Corinne) West. In the summer of 2019, the gallery announced the formal expansion of its primary market business and focus on the presentation of contemporary work, operating under Hollis Taggart Contemporary. The gallery's flagship space is located on W. 26th Street and its contemporary division is based at secondary location on W. 25th Street. The gallery also has a private viewing and storage facility in the neighborhood. With 40 years of experience, Hollis Taggart is widely recognized by collectors and curators for its leadership, expertise, and openness, on matters of art history, and market trends and opportunities.

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