

Patti Oleon

Tomorrow Looks Like Yesterday

April 20 - May 25, 2024

Lowell Ryan Projects is pleased to present a solo exhibition by San Francisco-based artist Patti Oleon titled *Tomorrow Looks Like Yesterday*. The exhibition features eight oil paintings created over the course of the last year that depict windows and doorways in interior spaces, particularly entryways and hallways in elegant older homes and buildings. In these works, chiaroscuro techniques are employed to create dreamlike images that shift reflections of light and our perception of time and place. This will be Patti Oleon's first exhibition with the gallery.

Oleon's process, rooted in photography, produces works that question our concept of reality. While each painting is created from an image of an actual location, the artist relies on the cinematic effect of the camera to create scenes that reveal the light cast through doorways, curtains, and glass, often reflected in geometric patterns rendered in subdued shades of golden yellow, pale green and light blue set against dark shadowed walls. The camera's function in capturing light abstracts and darkens most of the signifiers in each room. The particular location of each piece recedes in significance, and the works begin to function as if the artist is building a memory or forming a dream. Each room that Oleon depicts is a place that she has been, but the works also act as a space that she could be going. The mind is left to fill in the blanks—the color of the walls, the sound of footsteps on the hard floors, the feel of cool air from a drafty window...

The images in this series were originally shot on Kodachrome film. Oleon's choice of film, with its mass popularity in the 1960s and 70s capturing every holiday, wedding, graduation, and family event, provides both an exquisite image from which to paint, but also an indicator of her works as a repository of memories, where past and present merge in a dreamscape of half-remembered visions captured by a now discontinued medium. Patti Oleon's paintings exude a palpable nostalgia for bygone days, yet with her evocative use of light she reveals an ephemeral quality, contemplating the transient nature of perception and the elusive essence of truth.



Patti Oleon
Curtained Window
2024
Oil on hardwood panel
40 x 30 in
101.60 x 76.20 cm
PO-05



Patti Oleon, *Curtained Window (detail)*, 2024

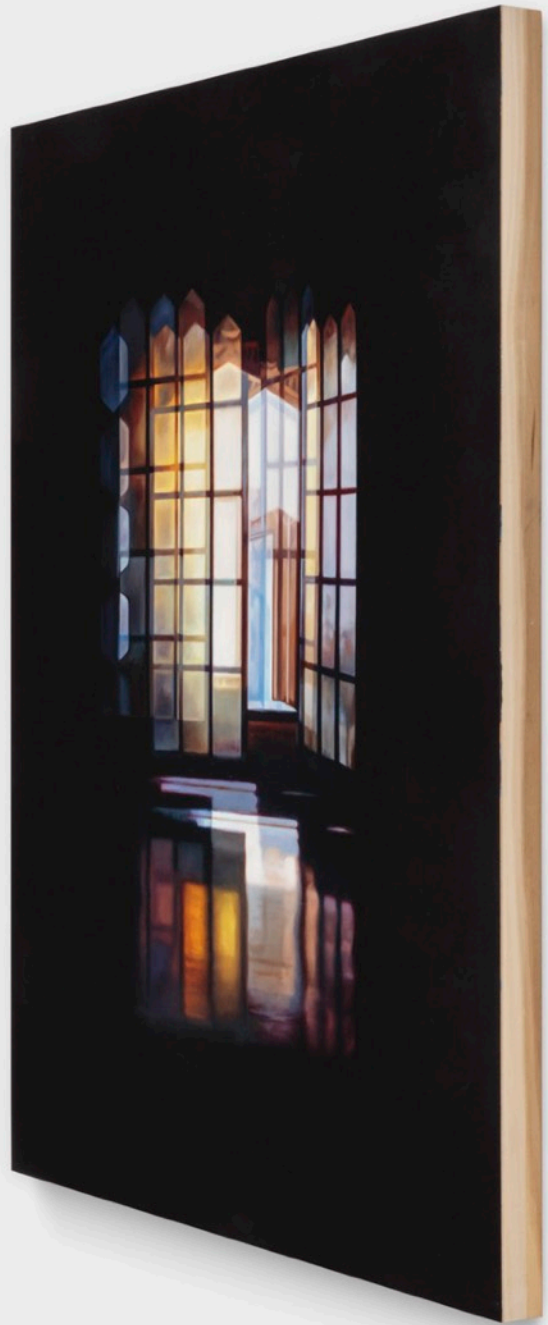




Patti Oleon
Faceted Doorway
2023
Oil on hardwood panel
40 x 30 in
101.60 x 76.20 cm
PO-04



Patti Oleon, *Faceted Doorway* (detail), 2023



Patti Oleon, *Faceted Doorway* (side view), 2023



Patti Oleon, *Windows and Floor (detail)*, 2024



Patti Oleon
Windows and Floor
2024
Oil on hardwood panel
40 x 30 in
101.60 x 76.20 cm
PO-01



Patti Oleon, *Windows and Floor (detail)*, 2024





Patti Oleon, *Double Mirror (detail)*, 2023



Patti Oleon
Double Mirror
2023
Oil on linen over wood panel
40 x 30 in
101.60 x 76.20 cm
PO-03



Patti Oleon, *Double Mirror* (detail), 2023



Patti Oleon, *Double Mirror* (side view), 2023



Patti Oleon
Blue Light
2024
Oil on hardwood panel
40 x 30 in
101.60 x 76.20 cm
PO-02



Patti Oleon, *Blue Light* (detail), 2024



Patti Oleon
Kiosk II
2024
Oil on linen over wood panel
30 x 24 in
76.20 x 60.96 cm
PO-08



Patti Oleon, *Kiosk II* (detail), 2024

Patti Oleon
White Doorway
2023
Oil on hardwood panel
30 x 24 in
76.20 x 60.96 cm
PO-06





Patti Oleon, *White Doorway* (detail), 2023



Patti Oleon, *White Doorway* (side view), 2023

Patti Oleon
Black Hallway
2024
Oil on linen over wood panel
30 x 24 in
76.20 x 60.96 cm
PO-07





Patti Oleon, *Black Hallway* (detail), 2024

Patti Oleon (b. 1954, St. Louis, MO) lives and works in San Francisco, CA. Oleon received both a BA in Fine Arts and an MFA in Painting from the University of California, Los Angeles. Patti Oleon's paintings are an amalgamation of contradictions, blurring the line between the real and the artificial, the dark and the light, and the banal and the transcendent. She uses traditional Old Master oil painting techniques to create works that reference the past yet are firmly rooted in the present. Her works have been exhibited at galleries and institutions including Cris Worley Fine Arts, Dallas, TX; Modernism, Inc. Gallery, San Francisco, CA; Mark Moore Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; Angles Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; Edward Cella Art & Architecture, Los Angeles, CA; Santa Monica Museum of Art, Santa Monica, CA; George Lawson Gallery, San Francisco and Los Angeles, CA; the San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, San Jose; CA and the de Young Museum, San Francisco, CA. Oleon has received many awards and grants including the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Grant, the Pollock Krasner Foundation Grant (twice), the Adolph & Esther Gottlieb Foundation Grant, and a Fulbright Fellowship for research in Munich, Germany.



Patti Oleon In her San Francisco based studio, 2023

