

An abstract painting with a central face. The face is rendered in shades of green and yellow, with blue eyes and a simple mouth. The background is a mix of green, yellow, and red, with some white shapes that look like torn paper or fabric. The overall style is expressive and somewhat surreal.

Michael Rose
In Spite of It

A Solo Exhibition

Presented by The Untitled Space

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Michael Rose: In Spite of It

February 21st – 28th, 2025

The Untitled Space is pleased to present “In Spite of It,” a solo exhibition of paintings by artist Michael Rose curated by Indira Cesarine. In his latest solo exhibition, In Spite of It, Brooklyn-based artist and composer Michael Rose explores the intricacies of emotion, memory, and perception through his distinct approach to portraiture and the human form. With this series, Rose presents a body of work that hovers in a space between clarity and dissolution, exploring themes of alienation, fragmentation, and the tension between the permeable and isolated self.

Rose's paintings transcend traditional representation, pushing boundaries of the human form. His works shift between states of near-recognition and abstraction, where features dissolve into ethereal atmospheres or sharp contrasts emerge from a haze. The human figure becomes both clear and elusive, a dynamic dance of form and formlessness, where auras, shadows, and edges phase in and out of alignment. The works in *In Spite of It* take on a prismatic, iridescent quality, mirroring the emotional complexity of their subjects. This quality is enhanced through Rose's unique, layered painting technique—combining slow glazing and rapid, spontaneous brushwork to create surfaces that are rich in texture and visual depth. Each painting seems to hover between memory and reality amalgamation, as if capturing the raw sensation of a fleeting emotional state, unbound by traditional visual norms. The interplay between meticulously prepared surfaces and impulsive gestures gives way to anatomical studies of emotion, where the internal landscape is as vivid and fluctuating as the external one.

Painted on a variety of surfaces including wood, canvas, linen, and polyester, these works break free from conventional representations of the body. Rose's deliberate focus on the thinness of skin and the tension between the self and its environment suggests that the line between the body and the world around it is not just porous but fragile, impossible to define, yet constantly in flux. Through *In Spite of It*, Michael Rose continues to push the boundaries of emotional expression in art, inviting the viewer to experience a profound meditation on the human condition—one that is both personal and universal, defined by constant flux, transformation, and renewal.

“Like the iridescent visual effect of light passing through barely offset films— such as oil resting a molecule's width above water on the pavement—an iridescence of emotion and self can form in these figures....They resist naturalism not to obscure, but to express something not easily depicted: how a feeling, or a complex chord of sensations, looks without regard to representations aligned with the visual electromagnetic spectrum. The resulting images are like anatomical studies of emotional states as if seeing from the inside out.” - Michael Rose

Michael Rose is a painter, musician, and curator based in Brooklyn, New York. He holds an MFA in Fine Arts from The New School: Parsons (2020) and a BFA in Painting from the Rhode Island School of Design (2013), where he also completed a residency at the RISD European Honors Program in Rome (2012). “In Spite of It” is his second solo show with The Untitled Space.

View the collection online <https://untitled-space.art/collections/michael-rose>

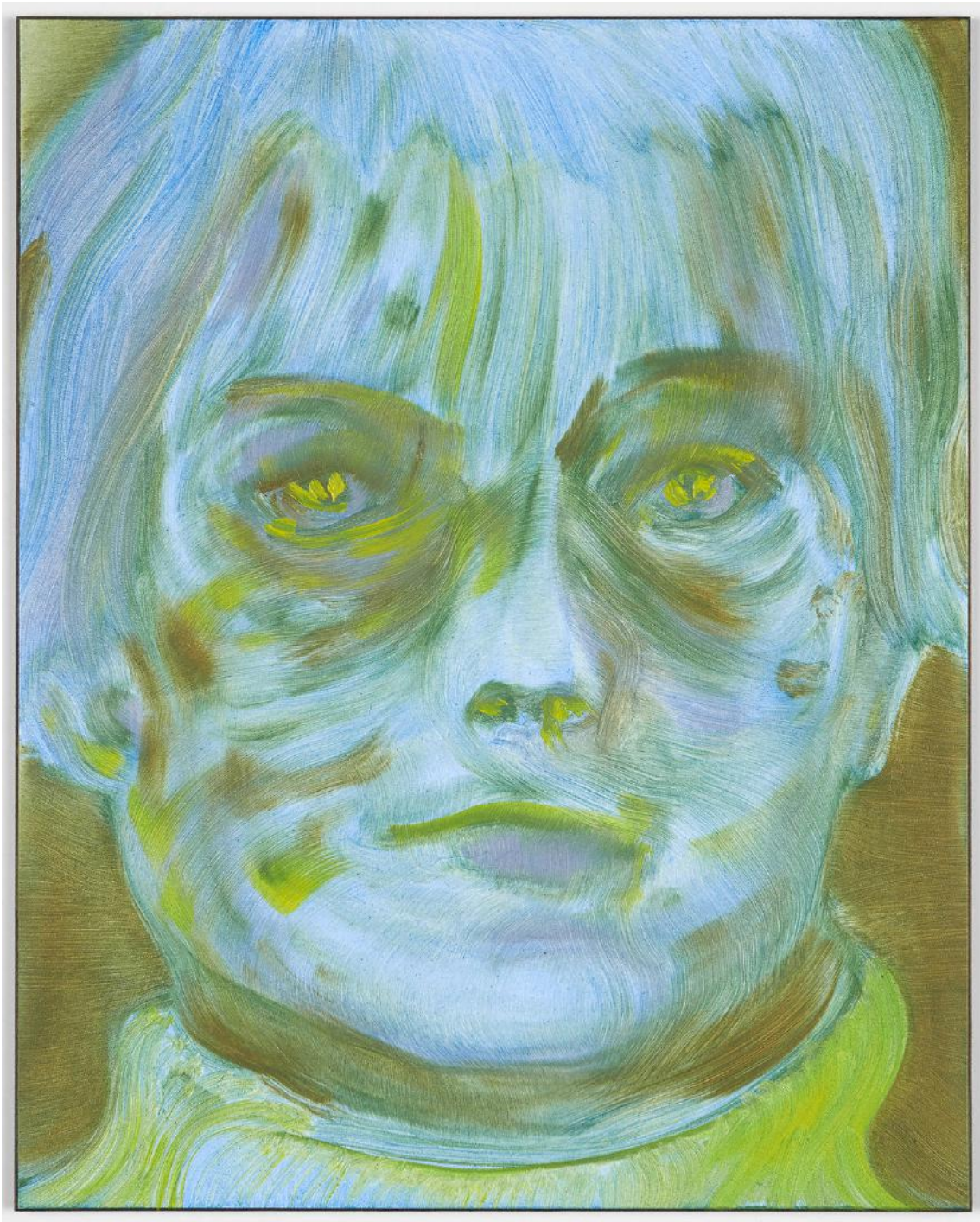


Michael Rose "Levitation" 2024

Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 9in x 12in

\$2500.00

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Michael Rose "Luke" 2024

Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 8in x 10in

\$2250.00

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Michael Rose "Providence" 2023

Painting: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: Artwork 12.5in x 13.75in

\$2000.00

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Michael Rose "Untitled 11" 2024

Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 6in x 8in

\$950.00

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Michael Rose "Song for the Spider" 2022

Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)
Dimensions: Artwork 17 x 25.5in

\$3500.00

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Michael Rose "Dawn" 2024

Painting: Oil on Canvas

Dimensions: Artwork 13 13/16in x 11 1/8in

\$2500.00

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Michael Rose "Untitled 14" 2024

2250.00

*Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 10in x 8in*



Michael Rose "Troll" 2021

2500.00

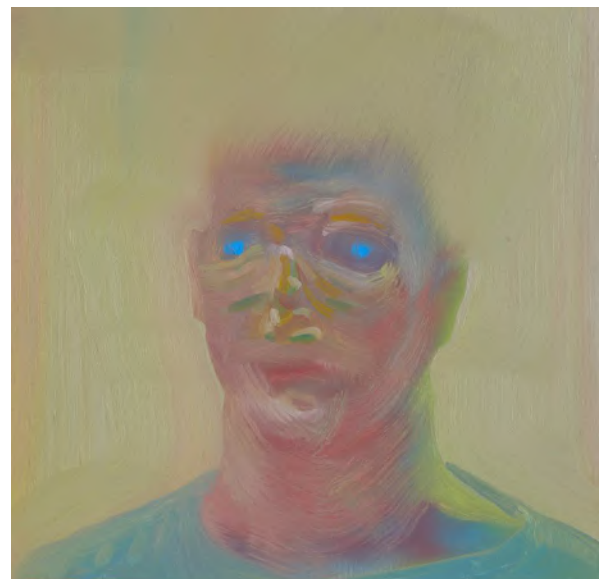
*Painting: Oil on Linen
Dimensions: Artwork 18in x 17.25in*



Michael Rose "Untitled (1)" 2021

2700.00

*Painting: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: Artwork 18 x 22in*



Michael Rose "Untitled 9" 2023

2006.00

*Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)
Dimensions: Artwork 14.5in x 14.75in*



Michael Rose "May" 2024

Painting: Oil on Linen (Stretched)
Dimensions: Artwork 16 5/16in x 11 7/8in

\$2750.00

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Michael Rose "Untitled 13" 2024

*Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched on Plywood)
Dimensions: Artwork 9.25in x 14in*

\$2500.00

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Michael Rose "Self-Portrait with Steve" 2024

Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)
Dimensions: Artwork 16.25in x 10.25in

\$2500.00

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Michael Rose "A Body Opened Up" 2023

Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)
Dimensions: Artwork 26.5in x 21in

\$4001.00

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Michael Rose "Exploding Head 1" 2021

Painting: Oil on Linen
Dimensions: Artwork 11in x 13.75in

\$2000.00

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Michael Rose "Self-Portrait" 2024

Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched on Plywood)

Dimensions: Artwork 8in x 11in

\$2250.00

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Michael Rose "Aurora" 2024

2750.00

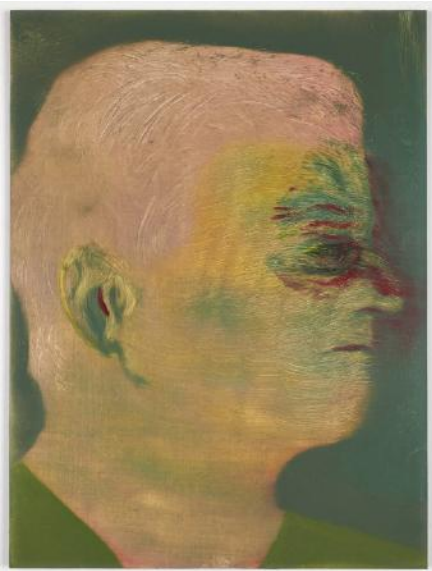
*Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 12in x 16in*



Michael Rose "Crush" 2024

2250.00

*Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 8in x 10in*



Michael Rose "Devandra" 2024

2250.00

*Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 9in x 12in*



Michael Rose "Spite of It" 2024

2250.00

*Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 8in x 10in*



Michael Rose "Untitled 7" 2023

Painting: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: Artwork 19.5in x 13 1/8in

\$2400.00

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Michael Rose "Untitled 12" 2024

Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched on Plywood)

Dimensions: Artwork 10in x 14in

\$2250.00

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Michael Rose "Untitled (4)" 2022

Painting: Oil on Canvas, Framed

Dimensions: Artwork 9.5in x 13.25in, Framed 11.5in x 15.25in

\$2250.00

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Michael Rose "Self-Portrait in Daylight" 2022

Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched on Stretcher Bars)
Dimensions: Artwork 11.25 x 11.5in

\$2000.00

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Michael Rose "Frank" 2021

Painting: Oil on Canvas

Dimensions: Artwork 11.25 x 13.25in

\$2000.00

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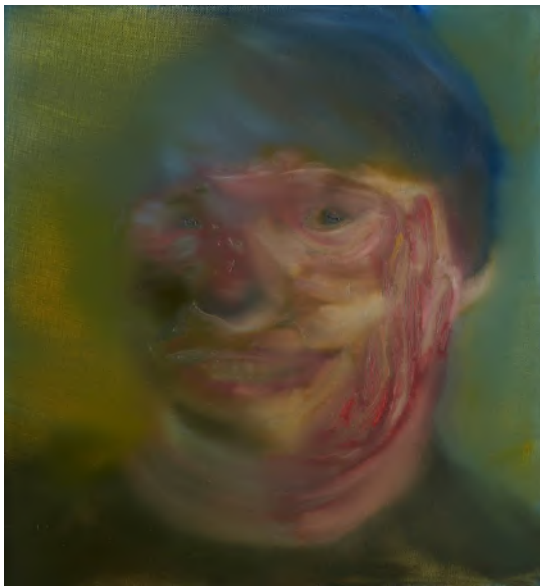


Michael Rose "Untitled 02" 2024

Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched on Stretcher Bars)
Dimensions: Artwork 9 1/8in x 13 1/8in

\$2500.00

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Michael Rose "Melancholy Will" 2023

2003.00

*Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)
Dimensions: Artwork 10.5in x 11.5in*



Michael Rose "Zombie Chic" 2021

2500.00

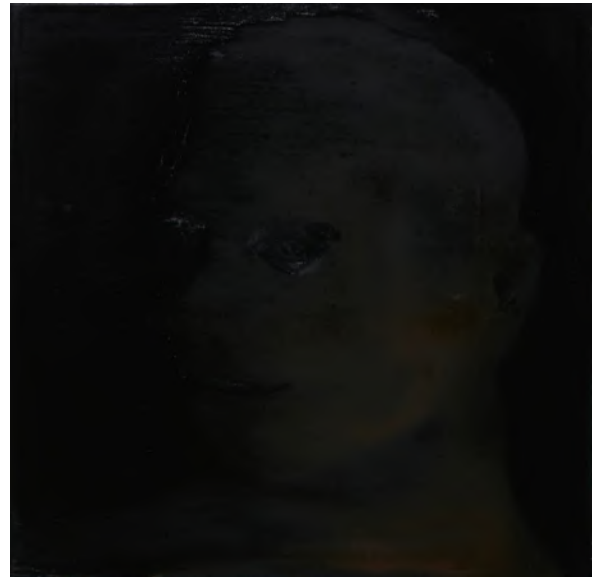
*Painting: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: Artwork 15.5in x 20in*



Michael Rose "Green Parka" 2023

2000.00

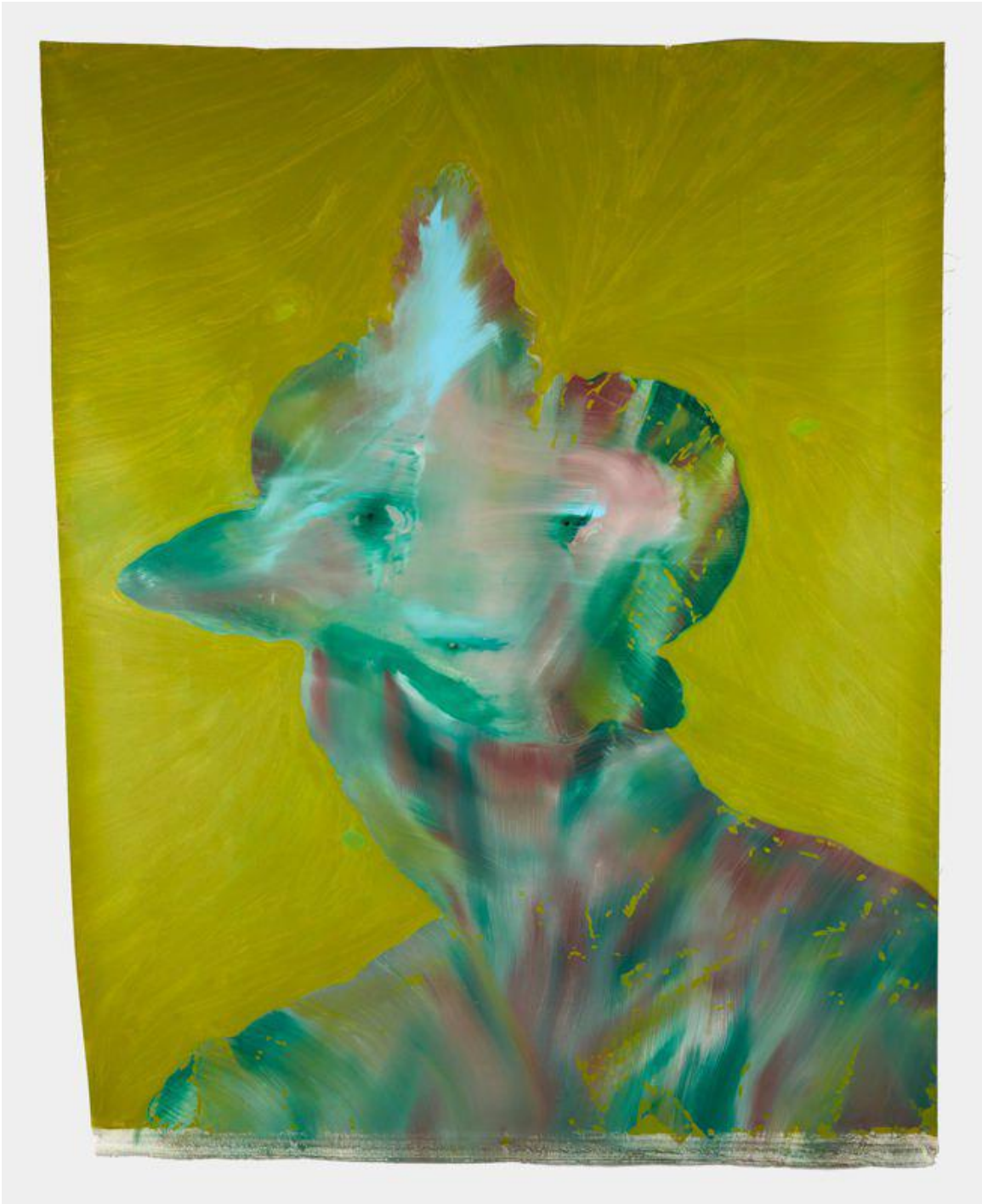
*Painting: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: Artwork 11.5in x 12in*



Michael Rose "Untitled 17" 2024

2250.00

*Painting: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: Artwork 15in x 15in*



Michael Rose "Self-Portrait (2021)" 2021

Painting: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: Artwork 48in x 60in

\$6000.00

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Michael Rose "Happiness" 2024

Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 11in x 14in

\$2500.00

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Michael Rose "Bad Grandma" 2022

Painting: Oil on Linen
Dimensions: Artwork 11in x 14.5in

\$2000.00

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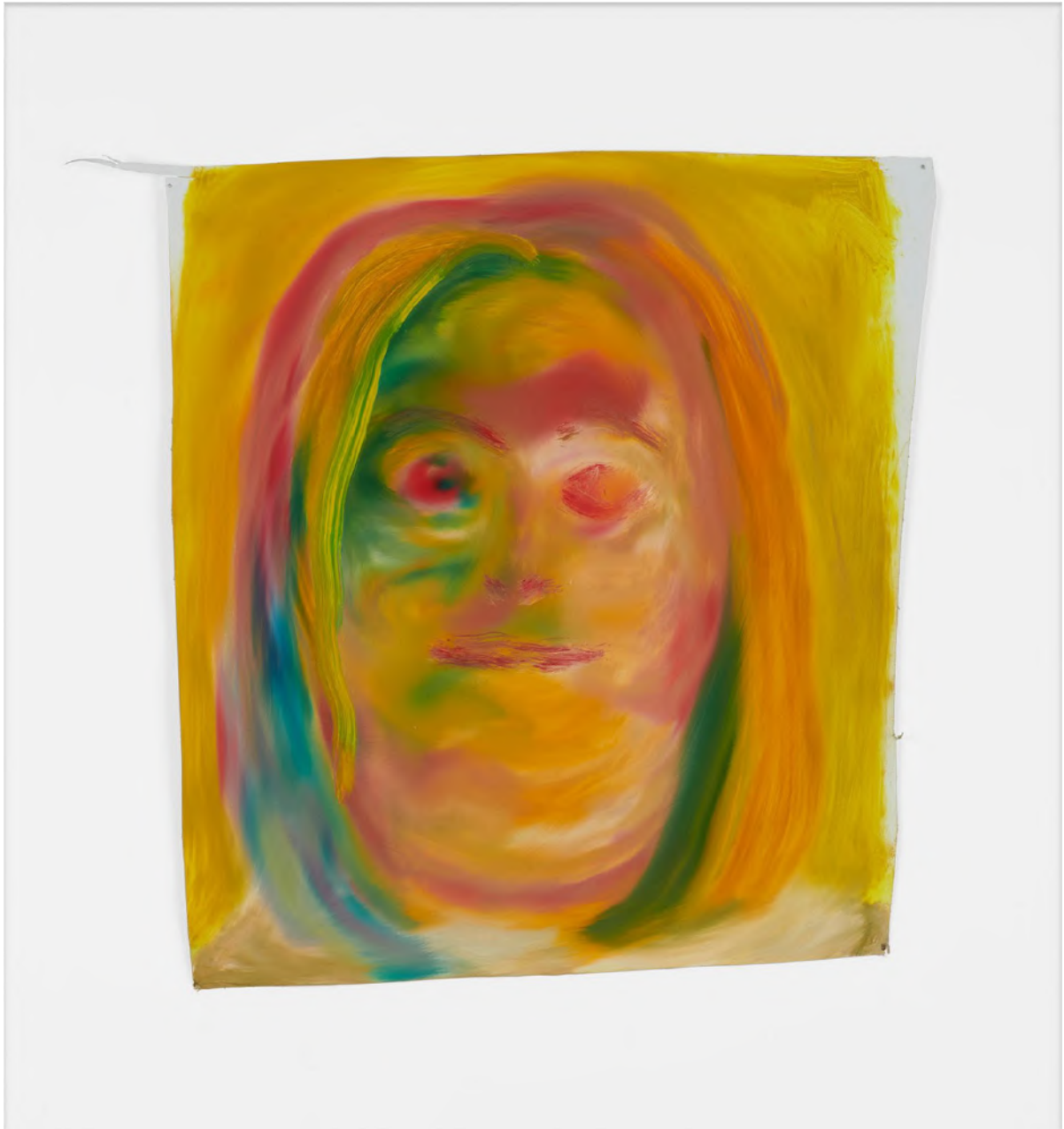


Michael Rose "Always" 2024

Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)
Dimensions: Artwork 7in x 10in

\$2000.00

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Michael Rose "Bloom" 2022

Painting: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: Artwork 12in x 11in

\$2000.00

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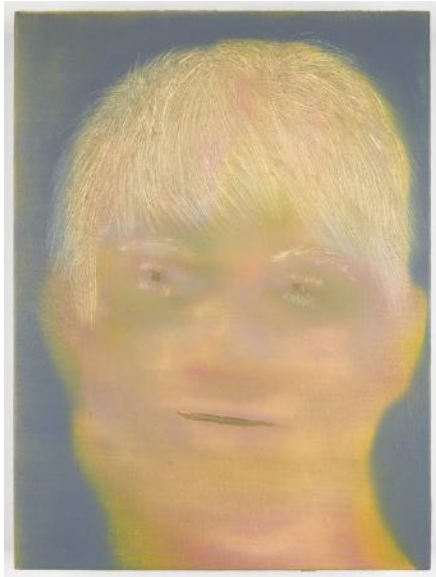


Michael Rose "Untitled (2)" 2022

Painting: Oil on Linen
Dimensions: Artwork 31.5in x 36.5in

\$4500.00

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Michael Rose "Ghost" 2024

2250.00

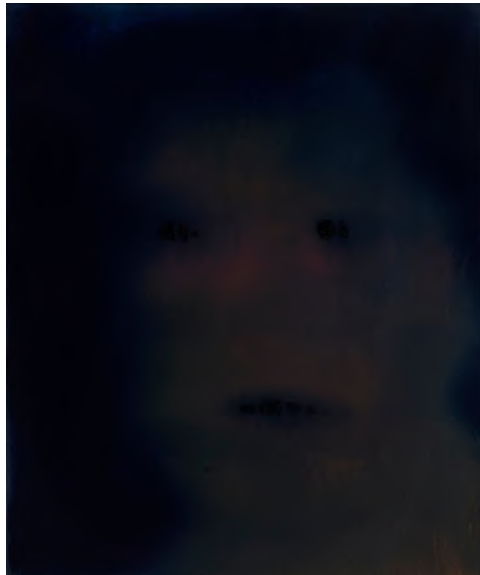
*Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 9in x 12in*



Michael Rose "Winter Solstice" 2021

3001.00

*Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)
Dimensions: Artwork 19in x 14.5in*



Michael Rose "Matt" 2023

2006.00

*Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)
Dimensions: 11in x 9in*



Michael Rose "Neossopoiia" 2024

2500.00

*Painting: Oil on Linen (Stretched)
Dimensions: Artwork 13 13/16in x 9 3/8in*



Michael Rose "Untitled 09" 2024

*Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched on Plywood)
Dimensions: Artwork 5in x 8in*

\$950.00

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Michael Rose "Untitled 07" 2024

Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)

Dimensions: Artwork 12in x 12in

\$2250.00

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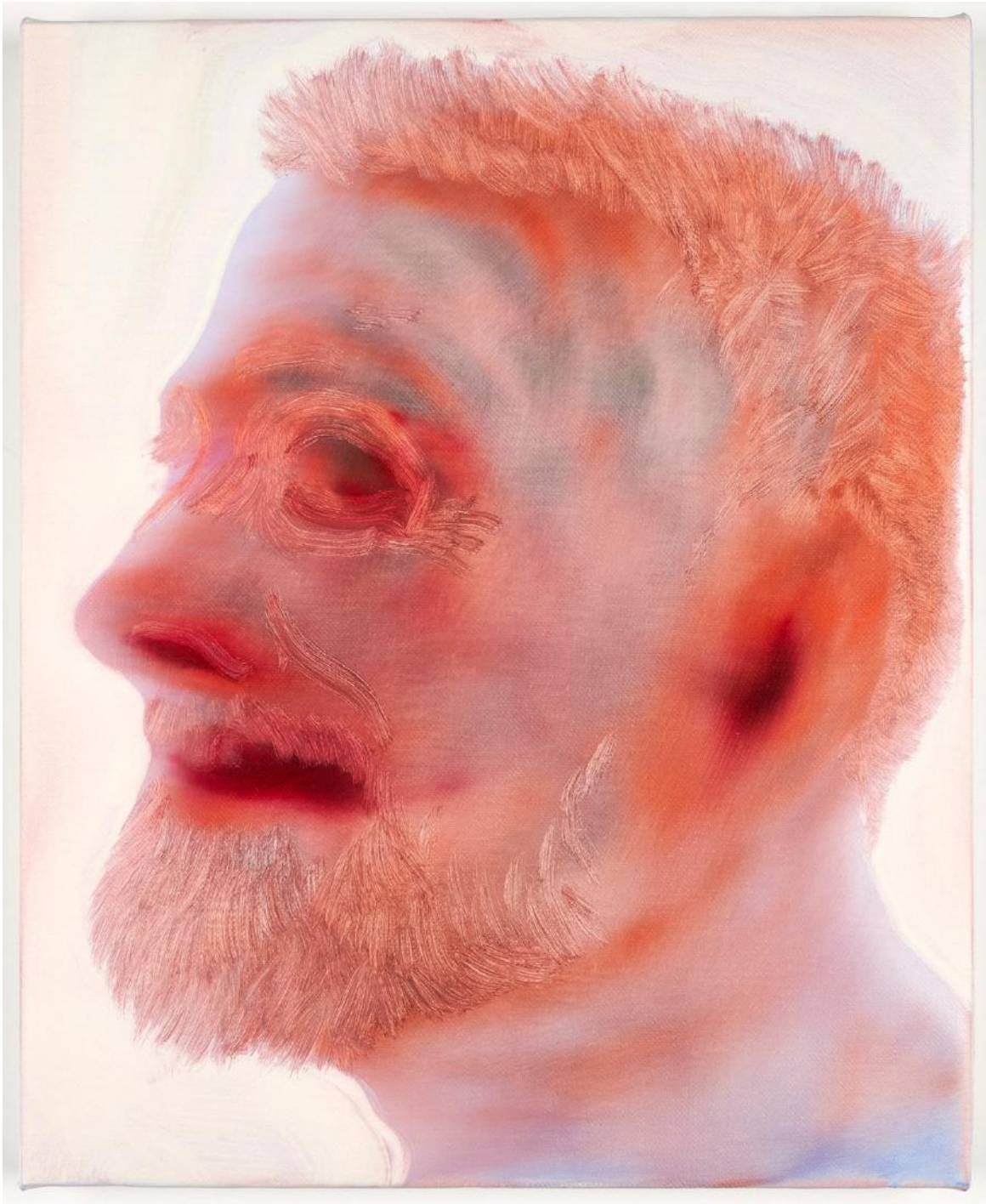


Michael Rose "Smile like you mean it" 2023

Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)
Dimensions: Artwork 21.25in x 13.75in

\$2513.00

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Michael Rose "Untitled 06" 2024

Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched on Plywood)

Dimensions: Artwork 9in x 10in

\$2250.00

UNTITLED
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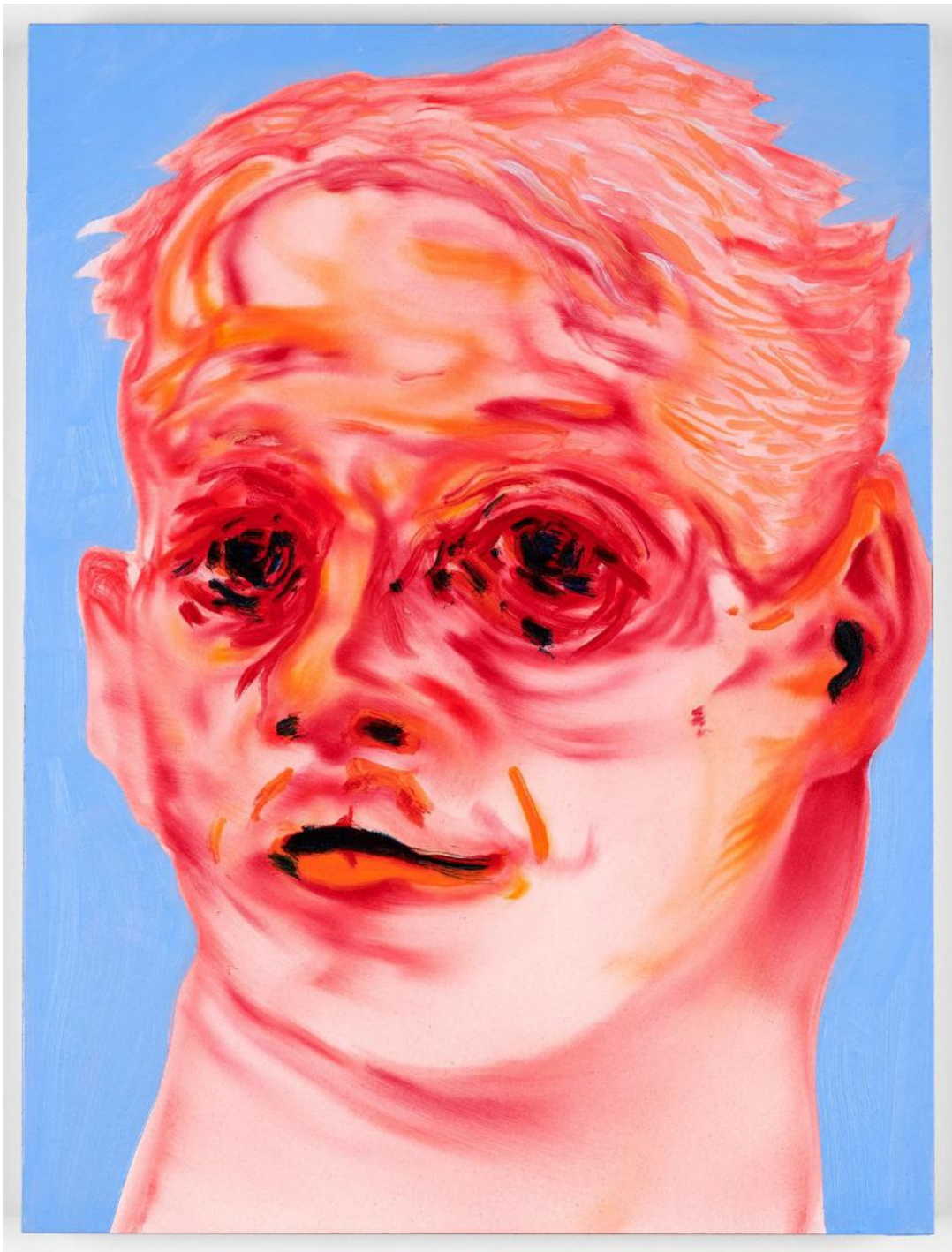


Michael Rose "Untitled 04" 2024

Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 8in x 10in

\$2250.00

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Michael Rose "Untitled 01" 2024

Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 9in x 12in

\$2250.00

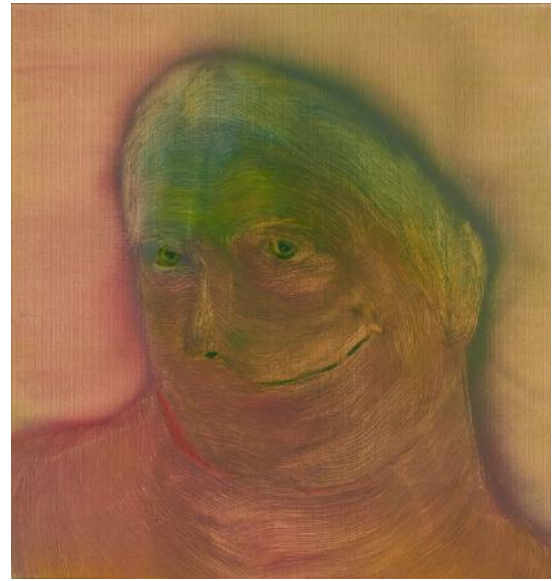
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Michael Rose "Through the Chute Again" 2022

2400.00

*Painting: Oil on Linen
Dimensions: Artwork 16 x 15.5in*



Michael Rose "Untitled 20" 2024

2250.00

*Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)
Dimensions: Artwork 12in x 12 13/16 in*



Michael Rose "Topographical Blurs" 2023

2500.00

*Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)
Dimensions: Artwork 16in x 13in*



Michael Rose "Untitled (3)" 2023

2003.00

*Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)
Dimensions: Artwork 15.25in x 13.75in*



Michael Rose "Mark" 2024

*Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched on Plywood)
Dimensions: Artwork 10.25in x 14in*

\$2500.00

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Michael Rose "Untitled 05" 2024

Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 8in x 10in

\$2250.00

UNTITLED
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Michael Rose "Starfish" 2023

Painting: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: Artwork 18 1/4in x 12.5in

\$2298.00

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Michael Rose "No Regard, No Remorse" 2021

Painting: Oil on Linen
Dimensions: Artwork 13in x 15in

\$2000.00

UNTITLED
SPACE



Michael Rose "Fish" 2024

Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 8in x 10in

\$2250.00

UNTITLED
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Michael Rose "Self-Portrait (2022)" 2022

Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)
Dimensions: Artwork 13in x 13.75in

\$2003.00

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Michael Rose "Be Honest" 2021

2800.00

*Painting: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: Artwork 22in x 22in*



Michael Rose "Untitled 03" 2024

2250.00

*Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 8in x 10in*



Michael Rose "Old Friend" 2021

2500.00

*Painting: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: Artwork 20in x 22.25in*



Michael Rose "Untitled 8" 2023

3000.00

*Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)
Dimensions: Artwork 15.5in x 24.5in*



Michael Rose "Tears of Joy" 2021

Painting: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: Artwork 15.5 x 18in

\$2400.00

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Michael Rose "Untitled 18" 2025

*Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched on Plywood)
Dimensions: Artwork 15in x 10in*

\$2750.00

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Michael Rose "Untitled" 2024

\$2750.00



Michael Rose "Reconciliation"

\$2750.00



Michael Rose "Untitled 10" 2024

Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 11in x 14in

\$2750.00

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Michael Rose "Self-Portrait" 2025

Painting: Oil on Canvas (Stretched)

Dimensions: Artwork 79in x 66in

\$7000.00

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Michael Rose "Untitled 08" 2024

2250.00

*Painting: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: Artwork 9in x 10in*



Michael Rose "Untitled 19" 2025

2250.00

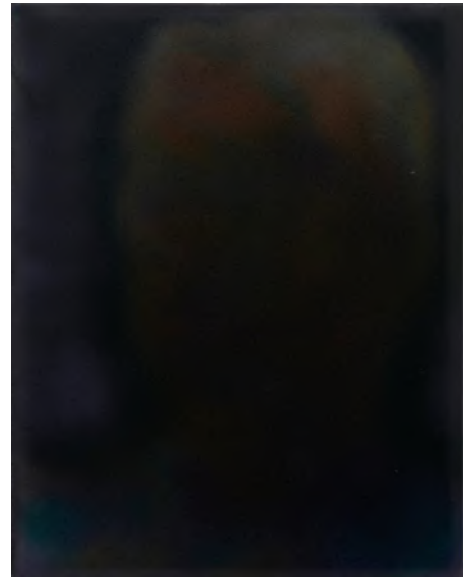
*Painting: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: Artwork 15in x 10in*



Michael Rose "Untitled 15" 2024

2250.00

*Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 9in x 12in*



Michael Rose "Untitled 16" 2024

2250.00

*Painting: Oil on Panel
Dimensions: Artwork 16in x 12in*