



BRIAN SANCHEZ: STUDIO VISIT



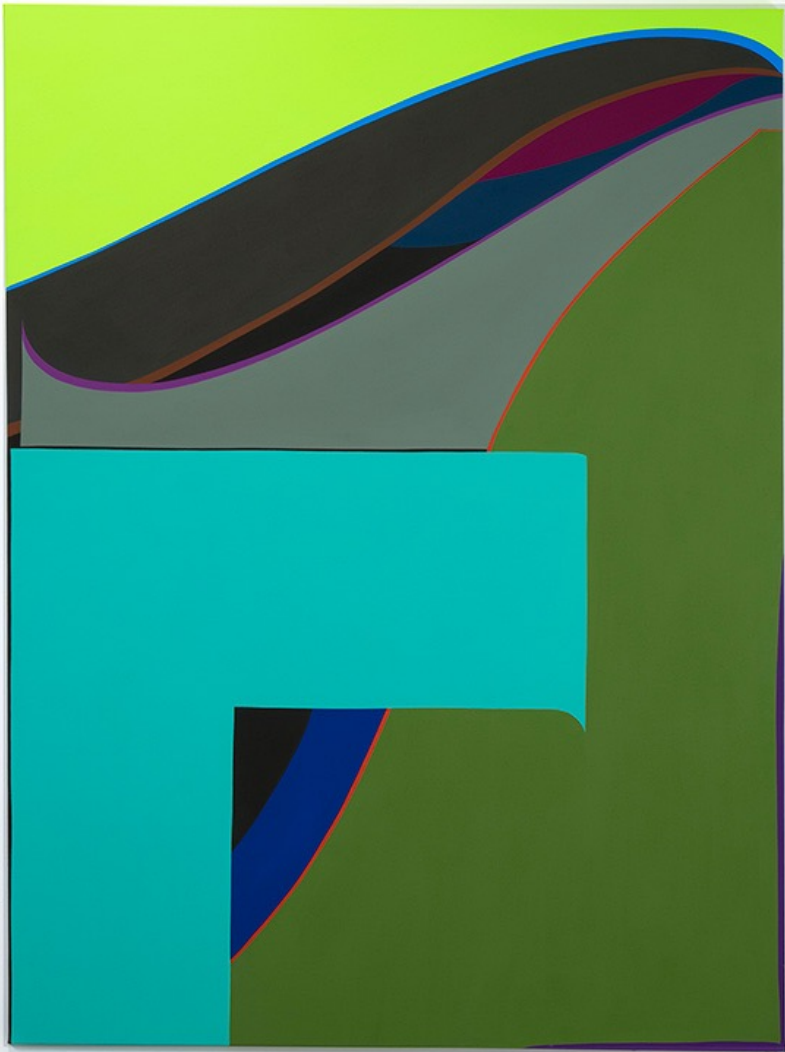
Brian Sanchez paints his grand, eloquent abstractions with a playful calmness, as though his radical choices in color juxtaposition are as natural, as self-evident as breathing. It is perhaps this existential passivity that led to the title of the Seattle-based artist's current exhibition: *BEING*, in which a suite of eleven paintings immerses the viewer in theoretical doorways & junctions.

*"Being* can mean several things. Including existence, being alive, the nature or essence of a person, a real or imaginary living creature or entity, and to be present.... A word so simple and basic and common that the definitions and text almost abstracted itself. A title that any living thing could relate and connect to and be infinitely inclusive. A fundamental word with much versatility." — Brian Sanchez

Brian Sanchez, 'Weeper,' 2023, vinyl emulsion on canvas, 64 x 48 inches







The compositions in *BEING* fluctuate from various states of substantial scale. The horizontal immersion of 'Kismet' presents Sanchez at his most symmetrical, with a canvas extending ten feet that invokes various states of reflection— literal and otherwise. 'Entity' alternatively posits an irregular, blocky shape to balance a sweeping diagonal motion threatening to ascend above the picture plane. Throughout, Sanchez integrates these sorts of compositional solutions to vast, immense arrangements of bright, unbridled color.

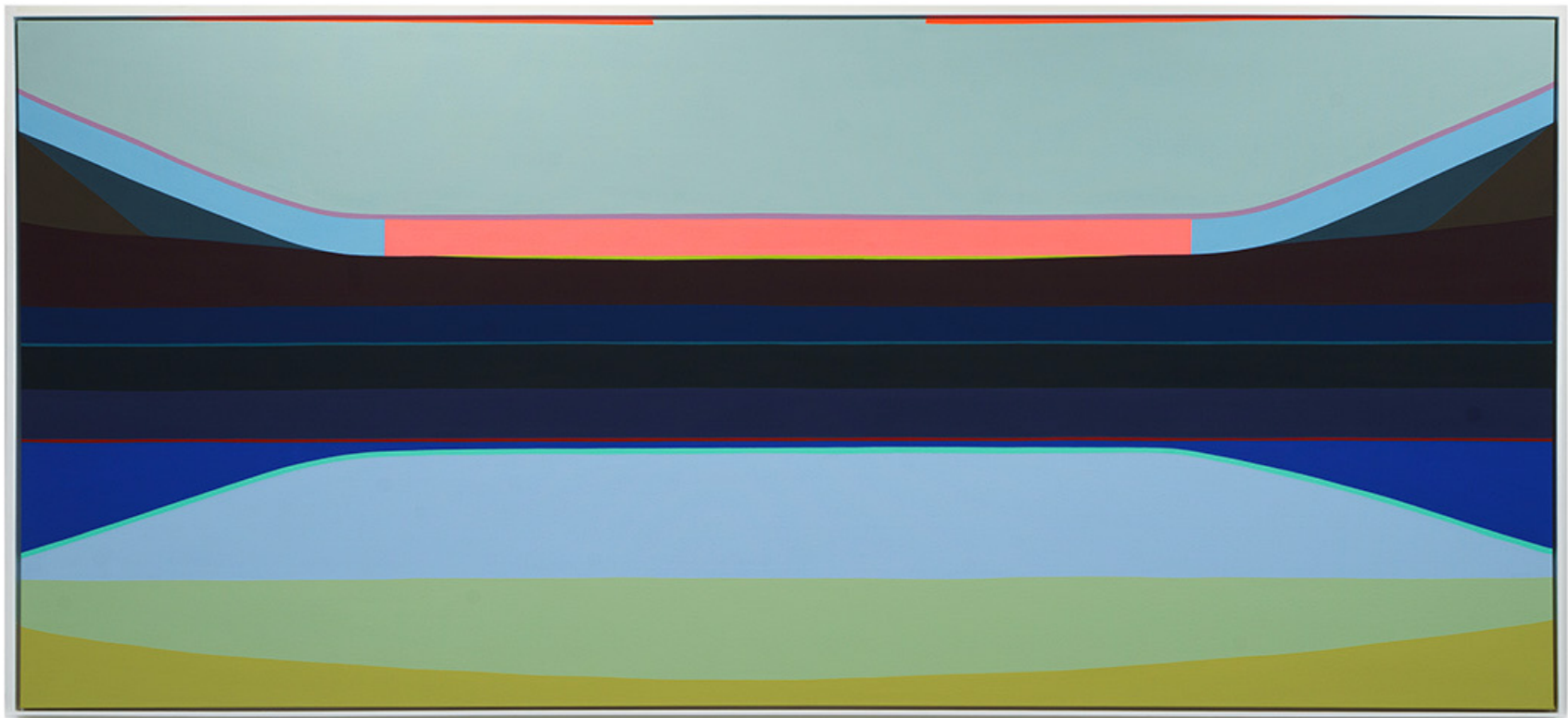
(Pictured left) Brian Sanchez, 'Entity,' 2023, vinyl emulsion on canvas, 72 x 54 inches





“When developing an exhibition, I want each painting to feel like its own destination; its scale is crucial. The gallery itself becomes an environment to establish a visual narrative within. The goal is to have a rhythmic flow of color and size from painting to painting, but for each to be able to survive independently on their own.” — Brian Sanchez

“When considering scale, I am thinking about how it will envelop and allure the viewer first and foremost. The dimensions are determined by the impact or depth the work will have. Some are the size of what seem to suggest doorways, others are the size of what could appear to be large windows or portals... I want the paintings to feel alive or as if they could be lived in or moved throughout. Creating a different experience whenever time is spent observing them.” — Brian Sanchez



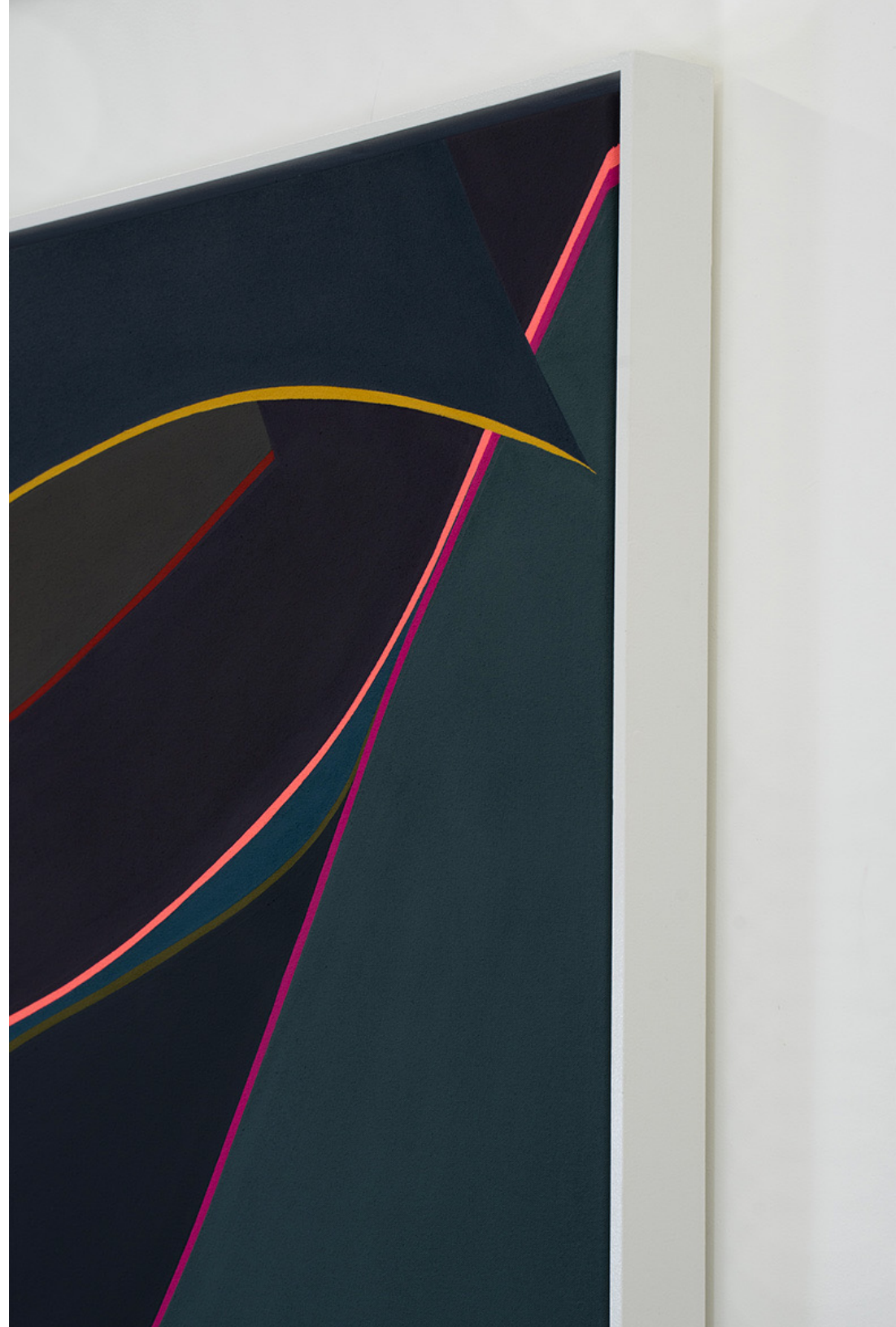
Brian Sanchez, 'Kismet,' 2023, vinyl emulsion on canvas, 54 x 120 inches





Sanchez' studio practice oftentimes consists of a slow morning, some loose-leaf teas from Seattle's International District to calm the nerves, and a lot of critical looking. Working on any number of paintings at once, his studio is constantly filled with both partially completed works that still require a process of fine-tuning ("adding and subtracting, tinting, shading, tweaking, sharpening, and warming and cooling of color"), and blank canvasses. Sanchez takes his time to work out composition, orientation, and finished environment before laying paint to canvas.

Working with a vinyl emulsion paint, Sanchez' color palette is a language of hard, jostling, and electric hues. The paint creates an undeniable density atop the raw canvas. A close inspection of his work reveals a rich flatness that permeates the surface, while a more distant view elicits an almost digitized glow. It can be difficult to comprehend the freehand human creation behind such exacting bands and fields of color at its seemingly most pure state.







“I see color as a language that is endless and accessible to most. Color exists in every facet and corner of what we do and where we are. When selecting a palette, I do not think about what looks good or bad, more what feels necessary.” — Brian Sanchez

(Pictured left) Brian Sanchez, ‘Lovesick,’ 2023, vinyl emulsion on canvas, 86 x 48 inches

“I want there to be harmony, tension, disruption, beauty, and confrontation all coexisting within a single painting. Creating constant motion for the eye and brain. Making things that are not easy to comprehend or resolve quickly— or ever. To me that feels honest, as our world is spontaneous and not entirely curated to be perfectly seen or understood. In fact, when zoomed out it is chaos. Especially in a digital age. Nature, man-made materials, intuition, introspection, and color theory dictate these parameters for me and the paintings. And I try to push and distort the boundaries of our assumptions or expectations of color and pigment on canvas.” — Brian Sanchez







Showing January 10th – February 24th

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appointment to view the work