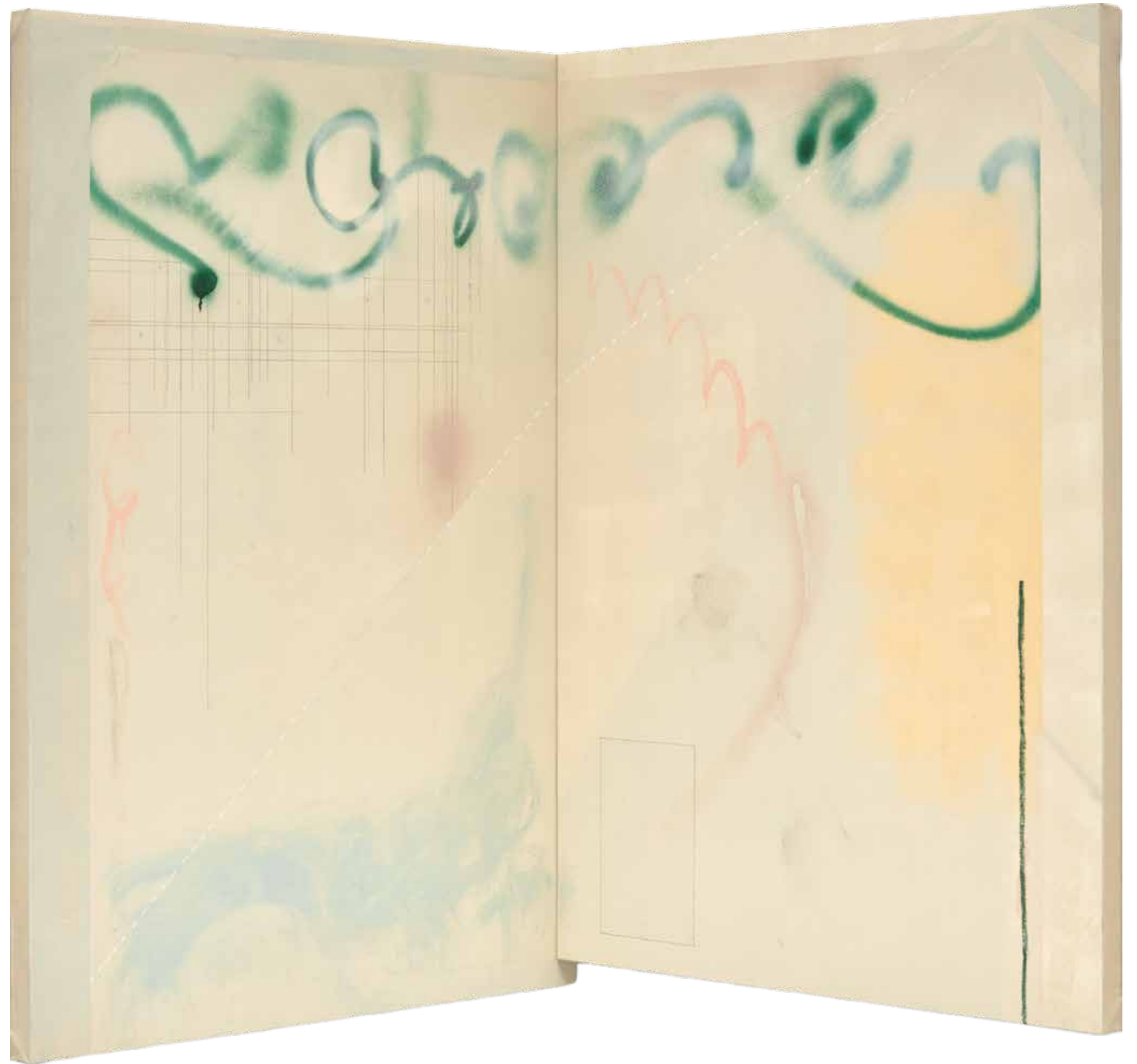


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Turiya Adkins at Independent

8-11 May, 2025
Spring Studios- 6 St Johns Ln



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For Independent Art Fair 2025, Hannah Traore Gallery is pleased to present *Weightlessness Training*: a continuation of Turiya Adkins' evolving series exploring running and flight as expressions of her African ancestry and family's legacy through histories including the Great Migration, Black athletes in track and field, the Tuskegee Airmen, and James Meredith's 1966 March Against Fear.

Pursuing her personal "March Against Fear" further in this body of work, she transitions her subject to flight and freefall—a suspended motion that illustrates a conceptual gap, a peak at which it is possible to measure how far one has come and a moment in which fear is experienced rather than identified. Adkins' fall is one that offers open interpretations of how fear and desire inform one another. Her departure from the land to the sky reaches all the way

to space, where she gathers Afrofuturist queues from Sun Ra's experimental jazz track "Astro Black" to the story of the Zambian Space Program and the concept of cosmic salvation. Across these references recurs a question of the potential of our individual and collective mythologies to, as Sun Ra described in a 1965 interview, "[permit] man to situate himself in these times and to connect himself with the past and the future. What I'm looking for are the myths of the future, the destiny of man... I believe that if one wants to act on the destiny of the world, it's necessary to treat it like a myth."

On canvases coated in muted tones, Adkins composes loose gestures that convey sensations of the body rather than figurations of the body—forms drawn, painted, sprayed, and adhered as a constellation of references. In some works, more precise symbols emerge, including the

silhouette of the artist Michael Richards as it appears in his self-cast sculpture *Tar Baby vs. St. Sebastian* (1999), a piece in which he honors the Tuskegee Airmen by depicting miniature planes crashing into his body—created just years before he himself was killed in his World-Trade-Center studio during 9/11. In other works, she incorporates more universal symbols, such as the outline of bright, almost blinding, stadium headlights—asking us to consider how shedding light on fear can both clarify and obscure our vision. Releasing control and measure, these are some of her most ambitious works to date—playing with space and scale to instill the intense and immense feelings that the act of falling reveals for each person.

In 1964—the year of Zambia's independence—Edward Makuka Nkoloso, the self-appointed director of a national academy of

science, space research, and philosophy, founded the Zambian Space Program. In this grassroots coalition, he led a group of amateur astronauts through a program of weightlessness and isolation training in the fields of Lusaka, instructing trainees to prepare for zero gravity by rolling down hills in oil drums and swinging from ropes that would be cut at their peak—a social experiment that challenged the American/Soviet space race as a critique of the capitalism and colonialism that endowed the West with the freedom to reach for the moon. Guided by her own cosmic salvation, each of Adkins' gestural meditations is an exercise in weightlessness training. She holds us in that final moment of ascent before we are pulled back to earth and reality, welcoming and observing the relativity and unknowing of the fall.

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Turiya Adkins

Born 1998, New York, NY

Lives and works in Brooklyn New York

Education

2020 BA in Fine Arts, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

Solo Exhibitions

2024 More Than a Notion, Hannah Traore Gallery, New York

Selected Group Exhibitions

2024 All 4 U, Tureen, Texas

2023 Veiled Constructions, Sotheby's Institute, New York

Parallels and Rupture, Freedman Gallery at Albright College, Pennsylvania

Manifold Deluxe, Frieze Cork Street, London

Helmut Lang Seen by Antwaun Sargent, Hannah Traore Gallery, New York

2022 Manifold, FF Projects, London

2021 Experience 49 Blue/s, El Segundo Museum of Art, Los Angeles

Culture, Strada, New York

Selected Collections

Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, New Hampshire



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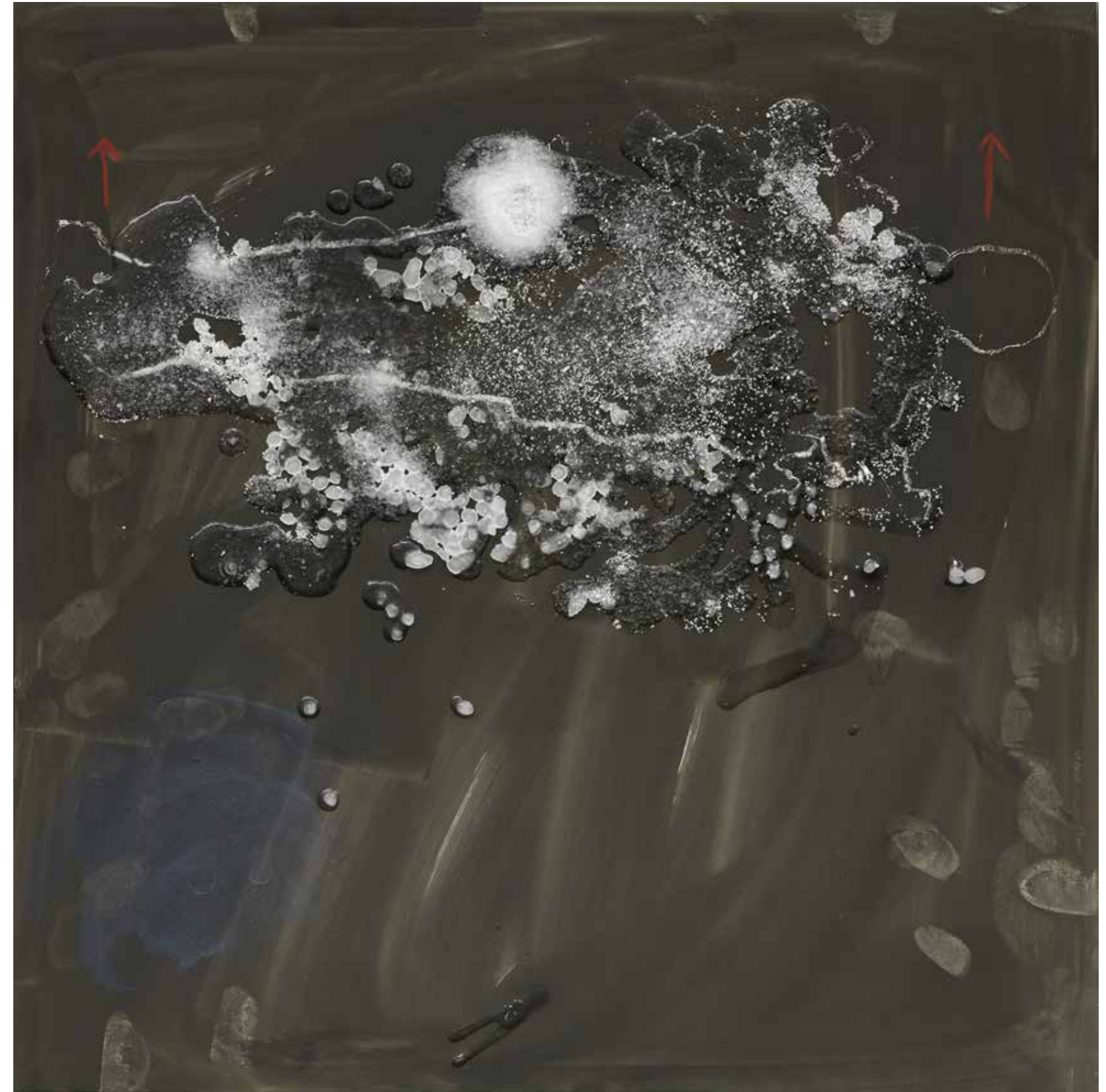
Among My Silences

2025

India ink, wax and salt on wood

16 x 16 in.

\$ 4,500.00 USD



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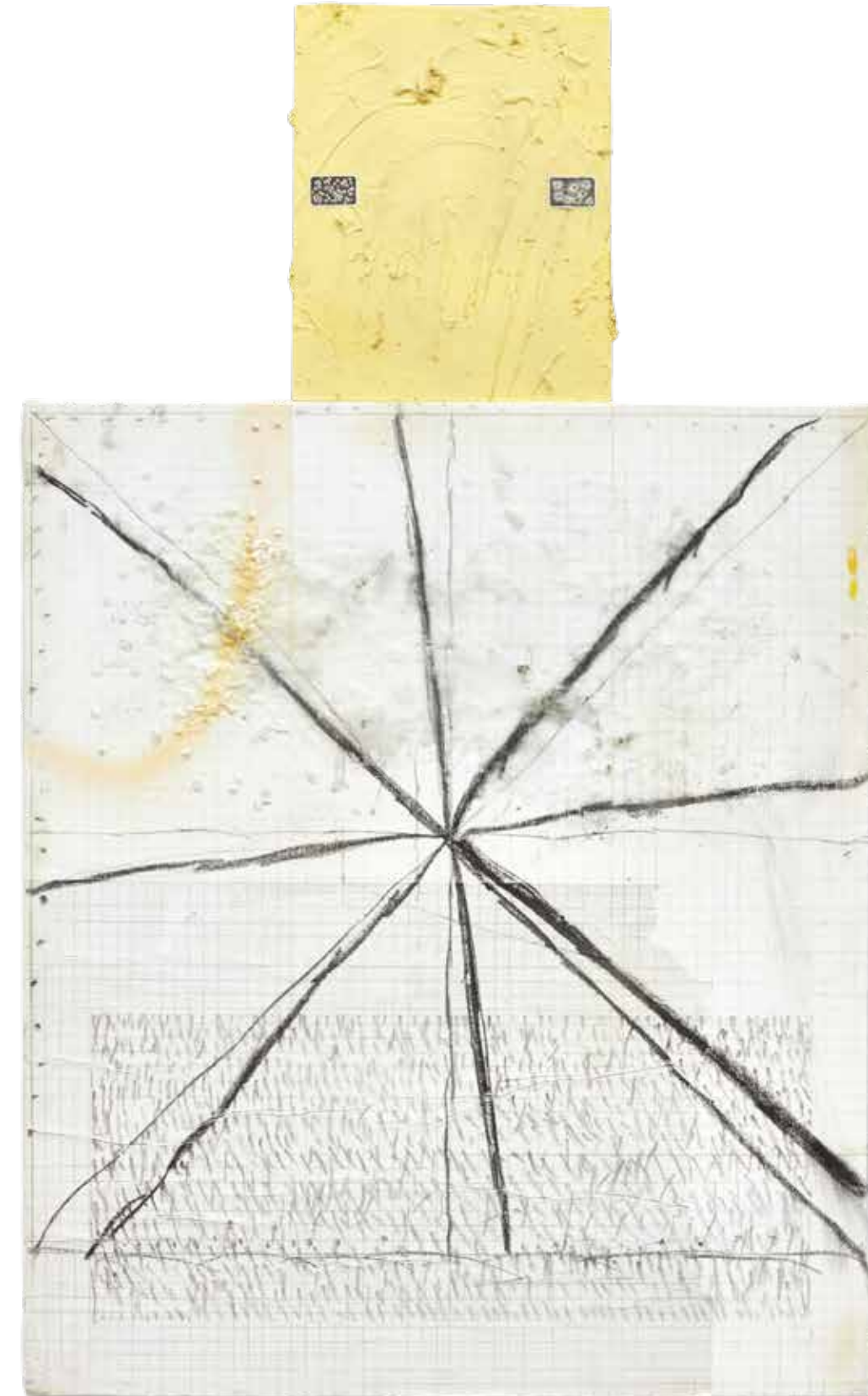
HPB Is Calling Your Name

2025

Acrylic, wax, salt and collage on canvas

34 x 29 in. + 11 x 14

\$ 7,000.00 USD



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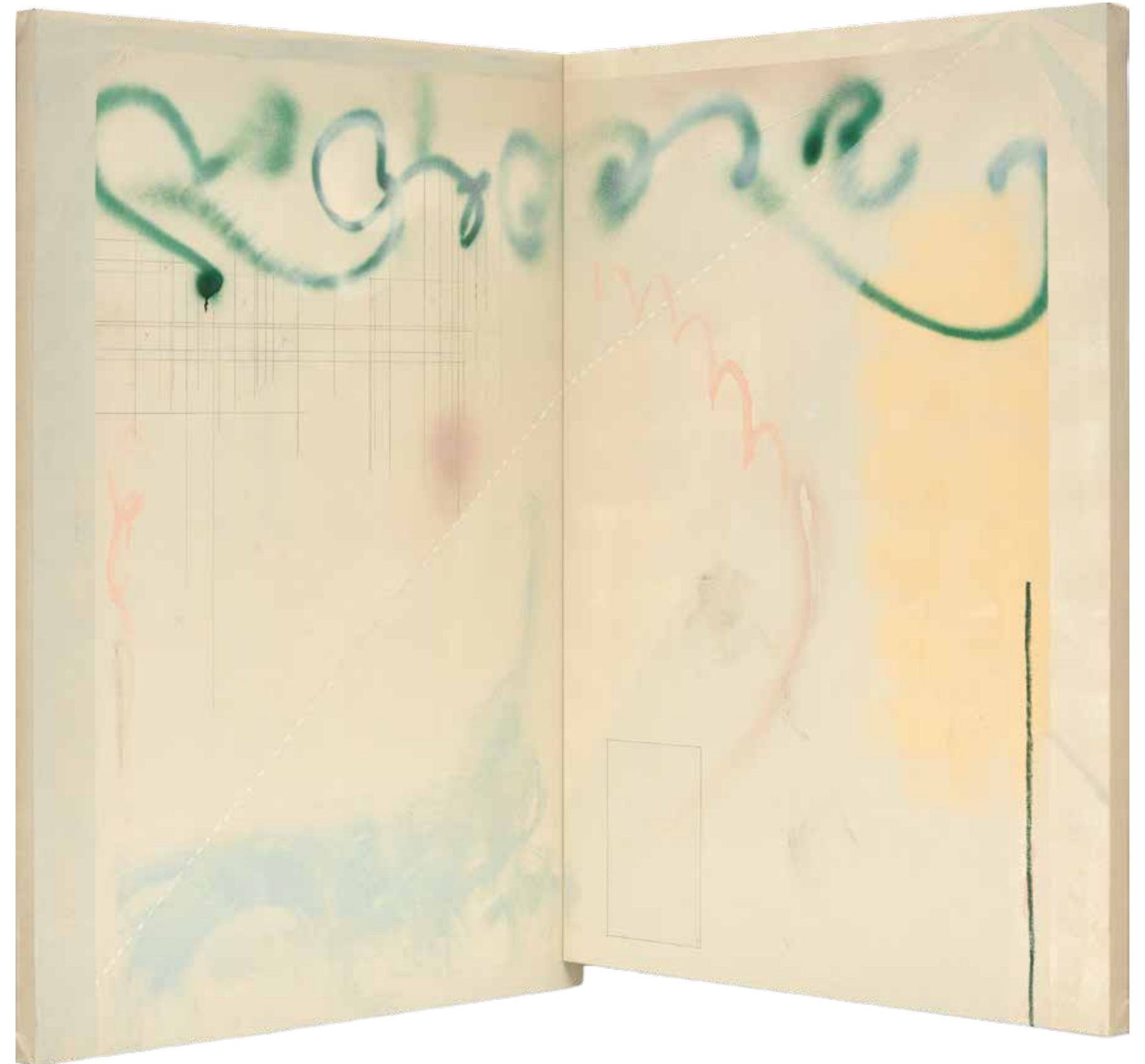
Admittance of Guilt

2025

Acrylic and graphite on canvas

49 x 72 in.

\$ 12,500.00 USD



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Untitled

2024

Acrylic and collage on canvas

48 x 36 in.

\$ 8,500.00 USD



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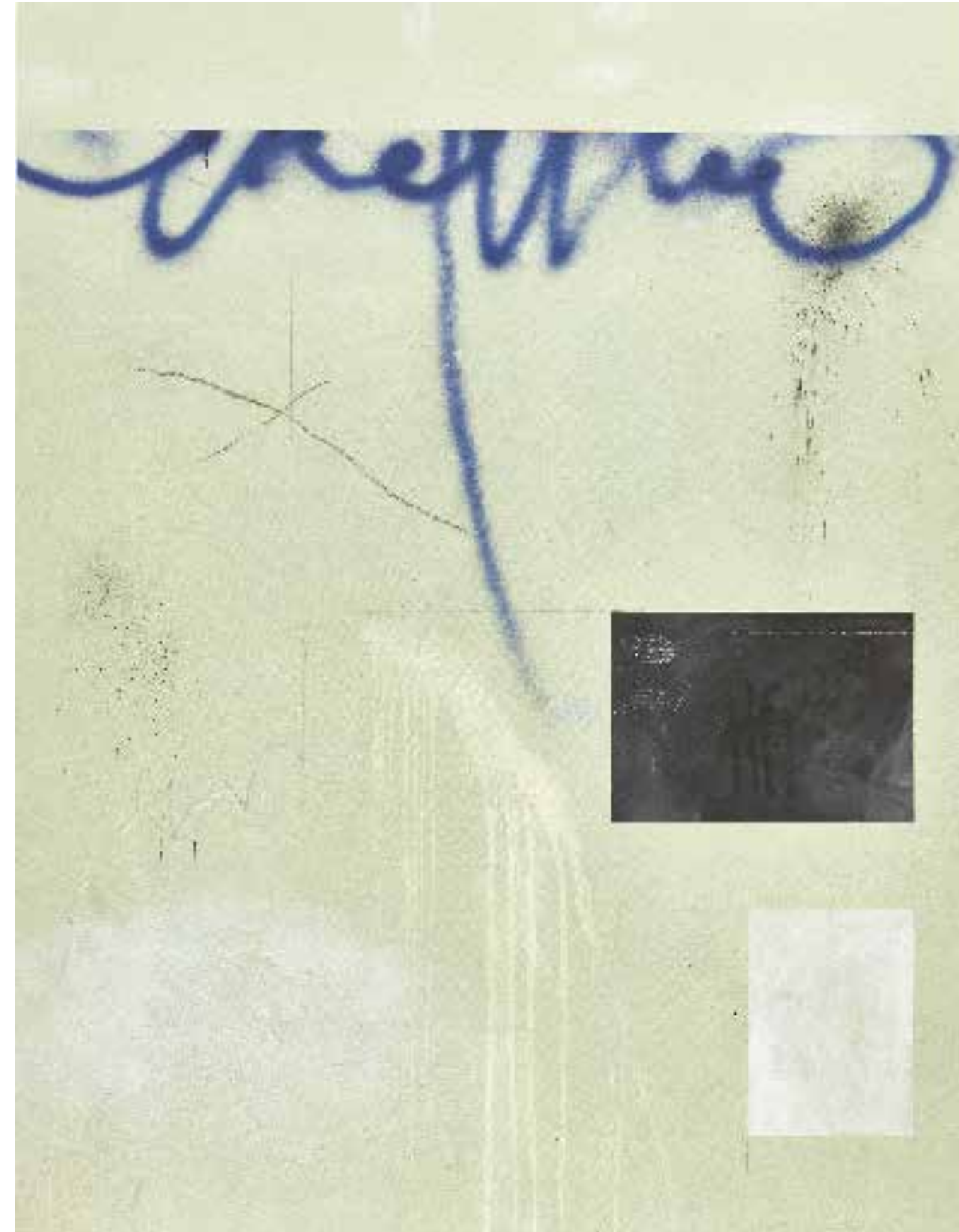
In Spite of Minutes

2025

Acrylic on canvas

78 x 60 in.

\$ 16,000.00 USD



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Pining for St. Sebastian

2024

Acrylic and collage on canvas

28 x 29 in.

\$ 6,500.00 USD



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Bible of The Sport 2025

Acrylic and collage on wood
16 x 16 in.
\$ 4,500.00 USD



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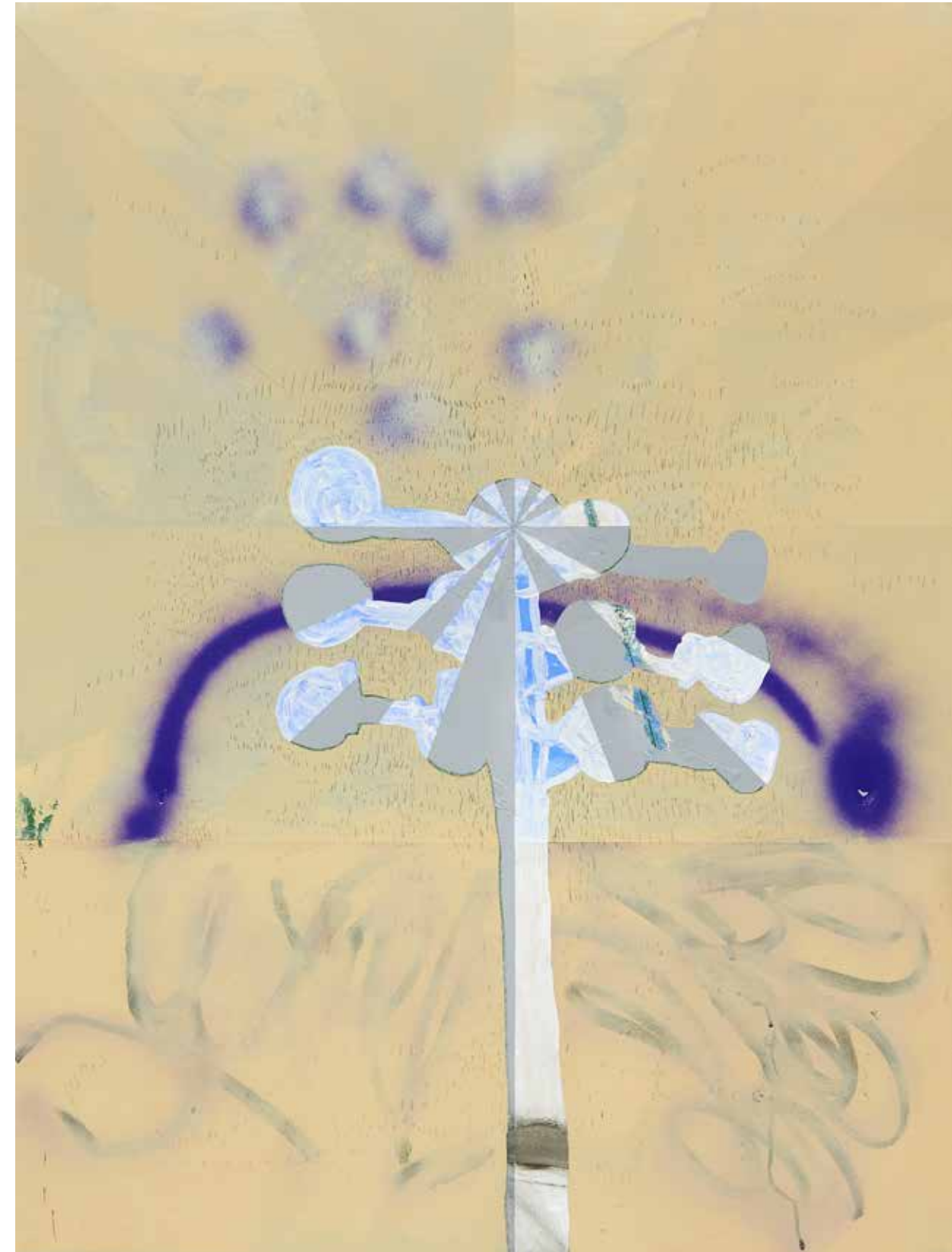
Without Shadow

2025

Acrylic on canvas

48 x 36 in.

\$ 8,500.00 USD



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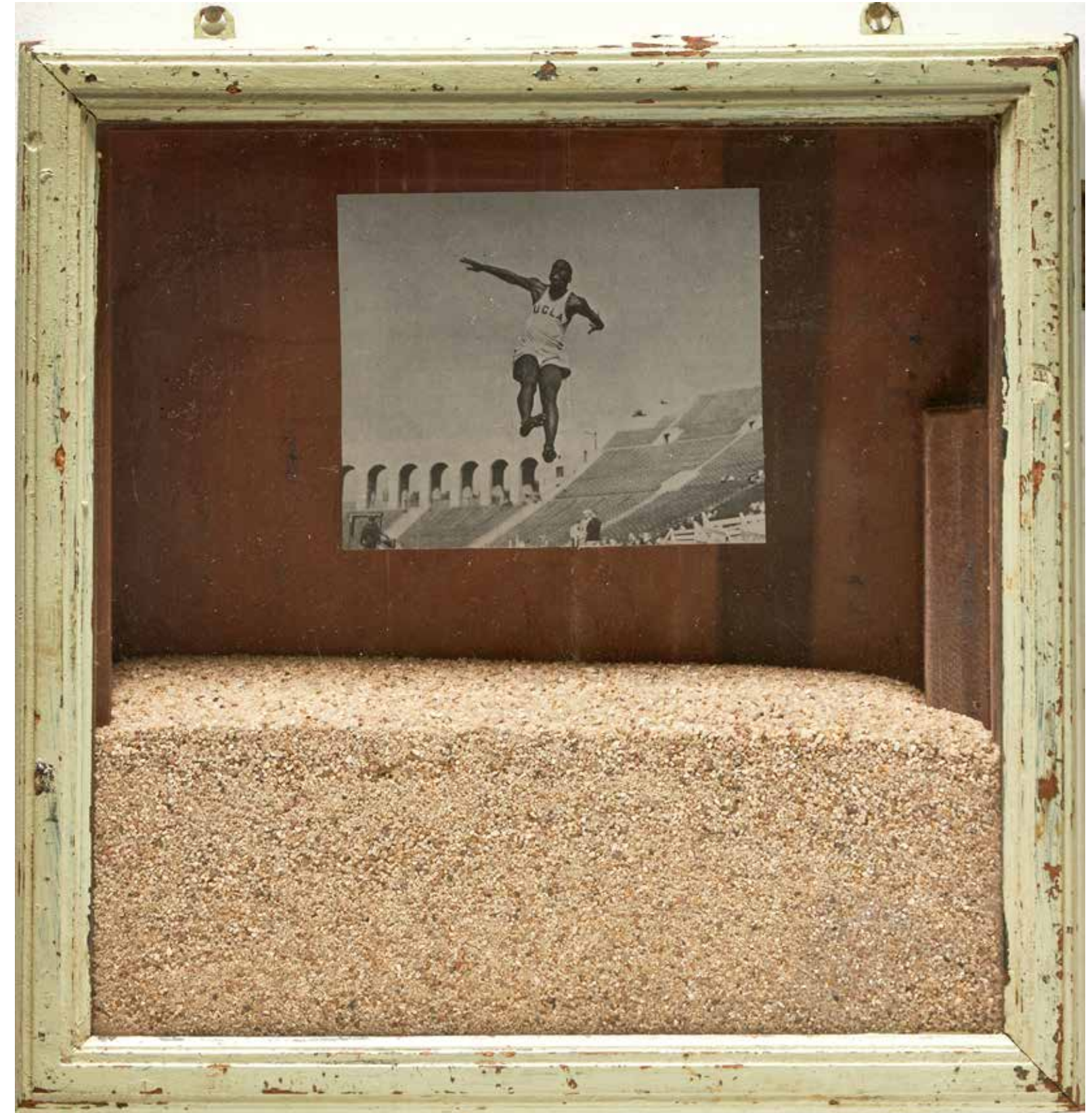
Afronaut

2025

Sand, collage, and medicine cabinet

25 x 25 in.

\$ 5,000.00 USD



hannah traore gallery

EST 2022

150 Orchard St. | Tuesday- Saturday, 11:00am-6:00pm

Hannah Traore Gallery is a space committed to advocating for and celebrating artists who have been historically marginalized from the mainstream narrative. HTG is building a path forward to share their extraordinary visions with the world. The gallery exhibits artists from all around the world, selected based on their exceptional talent and distinctive voice.

Understanding that art is in constant dialogue with design, fashion, media, and the ever-changing world around us, HTG is dedicated to broadening the notion of what is deemed appropriate for the gallery setting. In doing so, HTG aims to engage both novice and experienced audiences in new ways.

The gallery and its exhibiting artists have been featured in the New York Times, Vanity Fair, The Guardian, ELLE, Harper's Bazaar, W Magazine, V Magazine, Frieze, Forbes, Cultured, Wallpaper, The Art Newspaper, Artsy, ARTnews, Document Journal, DAZED, Galerie Magazine, and more.



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