

An abstract painting with a dense, textured composition. The left side features a vertical, textured column of dark purple and magenta, with some lighter, yellowish-green highlights. The rest of the image is a complex, layered mix of dark green, teal, and yellow-green, with visible brushstrokes and a sense of depth and movement. The overall effect is one of a lush, organic, and somewhat chaotic natural scene.

BAERT GALLERY

THE ARMORY SHOW 2026
MELINDA BRAATHEN

SEPTEMBER 24 – 27, 2026

Booth P48
Javits Center, New York

4913 CLINTON STREET LOS ANGELES CA 90004

THE ARMORY SHOW 2026

MELINDA BRAATHEN

September 24 – 27, 2026

Booth P48

Javits Center, New York

Baert Gallery is pleased to participate in The Armory Show, New York with a solo presentation by Norwegian-American artist Melinda Braathen. Braathen's paintings explore the intersection of consciousness and its reciprocity with the natural world. There is a sense of uninterrupted time in her paintings, where a seemingly fleeting moment can unfold and encounter something more ancient, unfamiliar, sacred or uneasy. Inspired by Edvard Munch's exploration of painting being at once physical and metaphysical, atmospheric and psychic, Braathen's paintings create spaces where the boundaries between internal psychological states and external natural forces blur.

Drawing inspiration from the Celtic poet John O'Donohue and David Abram's *The Spell of the Sensuous*, Braathen advances her inquiry into the concept of consciousness as a fluid state that extends beyond corporeal limits. Her paintings become somatic visuals and ontological maps where the body is no longer a discrete vessel, but a porous site of exchange.

Braathen begins with personal photographs, capturing fleeting moments of light and form, which are then distilled through gouache studies. She often takes several photographs of one location until something opens — a deeper movement that somehow reaches towards the mysterious, an inherent intelligence, a knowingness — that can be further considered and cultivated in her painting practice. This process has become even more vital for Braathen as she has recently entered motherhood and grapples, like so many of us, with outsourcing vital human skills to the efficacy of technology. In these recent paintings, the subject, usually another creative person in her life, is painted in delicate reciprocity with the manifold textures and shapes of an animate landscape. Braathen builds up luminous, breathing surfaces that are interlaced with intangible visuals and energetic qualities that seemingly diverge from the natural light and logic of the landscape.

In *Songe*, Braathen depicts an embodied figure emanating a subtle matrix of sensations and sensibilities. This seemingly quiet dynamism that is usually imperceptible is mirrored in the blue circular movement above. Is the body

attuning to nature's innate rhythm or is a certain alignment or reciprocity taking shape?

Braathen's paintings oscillate between the instant and the meditative. In *Jung's Guest*, a woman sits at a table. However, all the signifiers of the dinner party aren't present. Rather, the figure is anchored in an environment that vibrates with an ancient, cyclical presence that may continue or evaporate at any moment.

Braathen paints as a way to instill an understanding within the viewer of the emotional energy she experiences, employing a liberty through her color choices and energetic brush strokes to move beyond imagery that is purely representational. Color is utilized not for its psychological shorthand, but as a force that directs the viewer's awareness toward the movement and temperature of the space. Her visual markers suggest a boundary between self and atmosphere that is constantly being renegotiated through sensory experience and temporal intuition. The result depicts nature as containing both renewable and ancient matter, time and eternity, the known and the unknown. All exist within a single moment.

Melinda Braathen (b. 1985, Oslo, Norway) received a BA from Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY in 2007, and also studied at the New York Studio School in 2006. She lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. Following a presentation at ART SG, Singapore (2025), Braathen is the subject of Baert Gallery's solo presentation at The Armory Show 2026. Recent solo exhibitions include *Soft Bodies*, UCSB College of Creative Studies, Santa Barbara, CA (2025); *Atmosphere*, Baert Gallery, Los Angeles, CA (2024); and *Charged Bodies*, Golsa, Oslo, Norway (2023). In 2027 her work will be included in a group exhibition at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, Portland State University, Portland, OR. Her paintings have been featured in Hyperallergic, New American Paintings and The Light Observer, and are held in collections across the United States, United Kingdom, Norway, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Greece, Czech Republic, Hong Kong, Nigeria and the United Arab Emirates.

BAERT GALLERY



Melinda Braathen

Songe, 2026

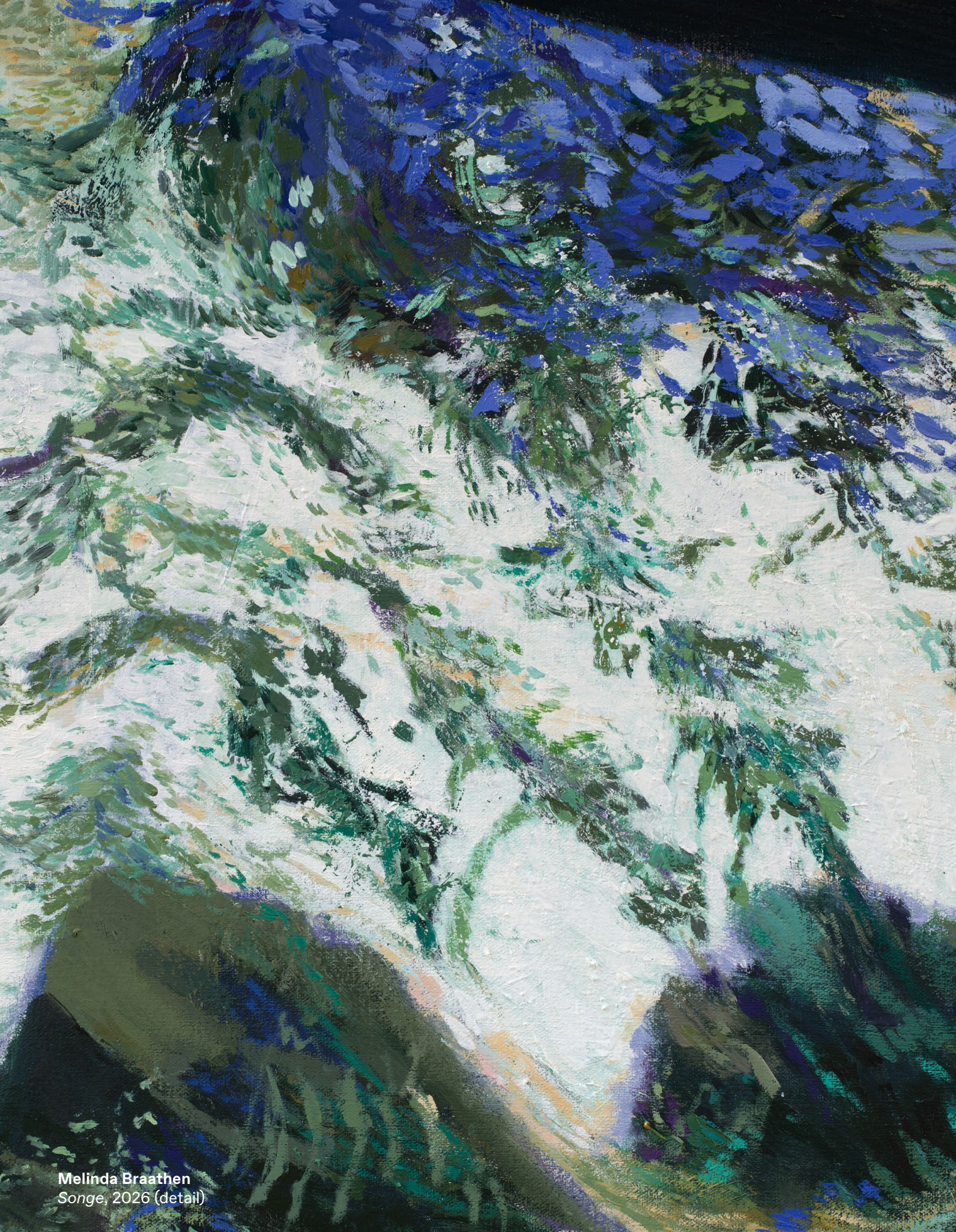
Oil on canvas

72 7/8 × 61 in

185 × 155 cm

USD 15,000.00 ex. Tax

[View high resolution images](#)



Melinda Braathen
Songe, 2026 (detail)



Melinda Braathen
Songe, 2026 (detail)

BAERT GALLERY



Melinda Braathen

Dovetail, 2026

Oil on canvas

72 7/8 × 61 in

185 × 155 cm

USD 15,000.00 ex. Tax

[View high resolution images](#)



Melinda Braathen
Dovetail, 2026 (detail)



Melinda Braathen
Dovetail, 2026 (detail)



Melinda Braathen

Murmur, 2026

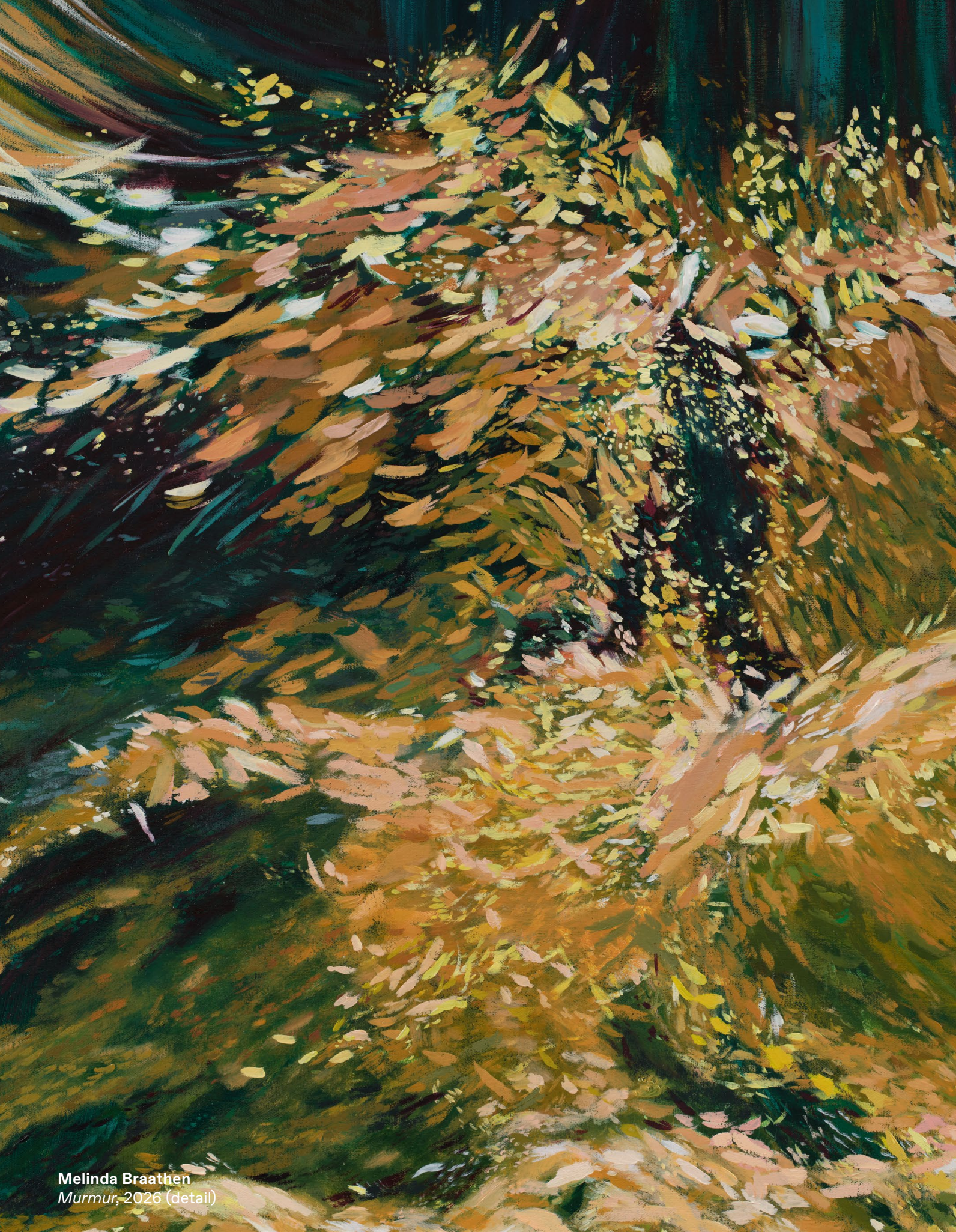
Oil on canvas

47 1/4 × 39 3/8 in

120 × 100 cm

USD 10,000.00 ex. Tax

[View high resolution images](#)



Melinda Braathen
Murmur, 2026 (detail)



Melinda Braathen

Phōs, 2026

Oil on canvas

47 1/4 × 39 3/8 in

120 × 100 cm

USD 10,000.00 ex. Tax

[View high resolution images](#)



Melinda Braathen
Phös, 2026 (detail)



Melinda Braathen

Jung's Guest, 2026

Oil on canvas

14 × 11 in | 35.6 × 27.9 cm

15 1/8 × 12 1/8 in | 38.4 × 30.8 cm (framed)

USD 3,000.00 ex. Tax

[View high resolution images](#)



Melinda Braathen
Jung's Guest, 2026 (detail)



Melinda Braathen

Untitled, 2026

Oil on canvas

14 × 11 in | 35.6 × 27.9 cm

15 1/8 × 12 1/8 in | 38.4 × 30.8 cm (framed)

USD 3,000.00 ex. Tax

[View high resolution images](#)



Melinda Braathen
Untitled, 2026 (detail)



Melinda Braathen

Untitled, 2026

Oil on canvas

14 × 11 in | 35.6 × 27.9 cm

15 1/8 × 12 1/8 in | 38.4 × 30.8 cm (framed)

USD 3,000.00 ex. Tax

[View high resolution images](#)



Melinda Braathen
Untitled, 2026 (detail)



Melinda Braathen

Untitled, 2026

Oil on canvas

14 × 11 in | 35.6 × 27.9 cm

15 1/8 × 12 1/8 in | 38.4 × 30.8 cm (framed)

USD 3,000.00 ex. Tax

[View high resolution images](#)



Melinda Braathen
Untitled, 2026 (detail)



GALLERY INFORMATION

BAERT GALLERY

4913 Clinton Street
Los Angeles CA 90004

Open Tuesday–Saturday, 11am–6pm

+1 213 537 0737
info@baertgallery.com

baertgallery.com