



FRIEZE

Blair Saxon-Hill

NEW YORK 2021

Viewing Room

May 5-9, 2021

NINO MIER GALLERY
7277 SANTA MONICA BLVD
LOS ANGELES, 90046



BLAIR SAXON HILL

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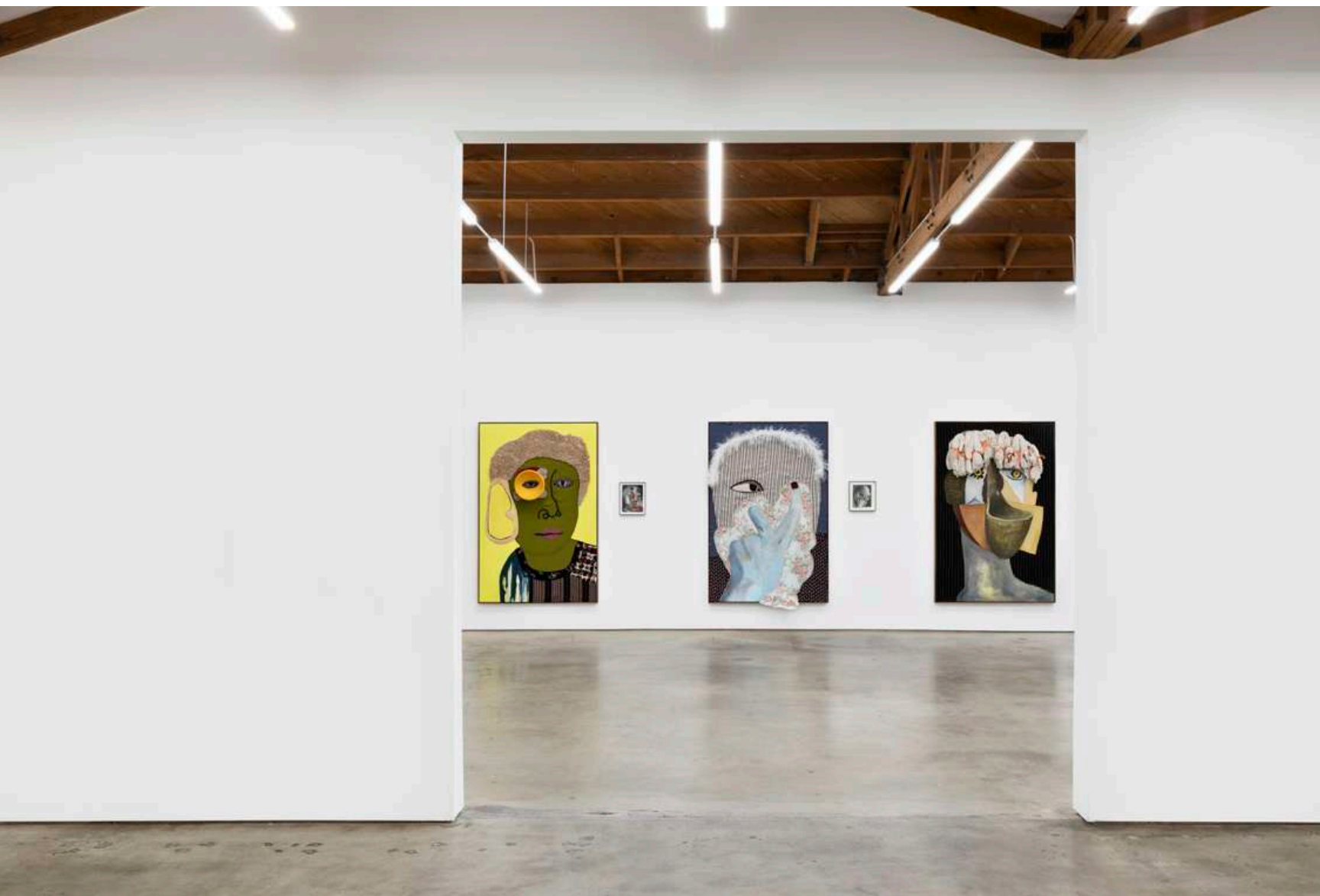
Nino Mier Gallery presents a selection of new works by Portland-based artist Blair Saxon-Hill, featuring analog book page collages and monumental fabric works on panel that include new and found materials.

As a material driven artist, Saxon-Hill works across mediums to create figurative collages and assemblages that are pedestrian and raw, turning the viewer to a visceral world of paint and matter to register current cultural and political realities. Throughout the artist's oeuvre, are a cast of characters that she has developed that are queer, surreal, humorous, gritty, and urgent. The characters in Saxon-Hill's current works are born out of the collective experience over the past year's pandemic, where those that we know and do not know are reduced to the proximity of the screen. In today's world, heads have become larger than life and the experience of the other has become less about the totality of personhood, but rather that of talking heads. Saxon-Hill has produced a series of expressive heads that at times include painted fragments of arms and hands alongside the cloth remnants. In Saxon-Hill's *Mother, Poet and the muse*, Kiki de Montparnasse, we see archetypes that dawn vintage crocheted afghans, mopheads, scrub brushes, mohair and tulle and are easily recognizable and at once new. Saxon-Hill activates, limits and exaggerates the senses of her characters as we may have been in the pandemic, as seen in the character of the listener, *Silent Sounds*, and the survivor, *Fevered Prayer*. Further speaking to our crisis, *Die Kissing*, pictures the gambler kissing a die. This work makes a linguistic and subject play to our cultural moment. For unlike Gran Fury's iconic statement "Kissing Doesn't Kill..." produced in the wake of the AIDS crisis, today, Saxon-Hill directs her viewer to the risks of engagement.

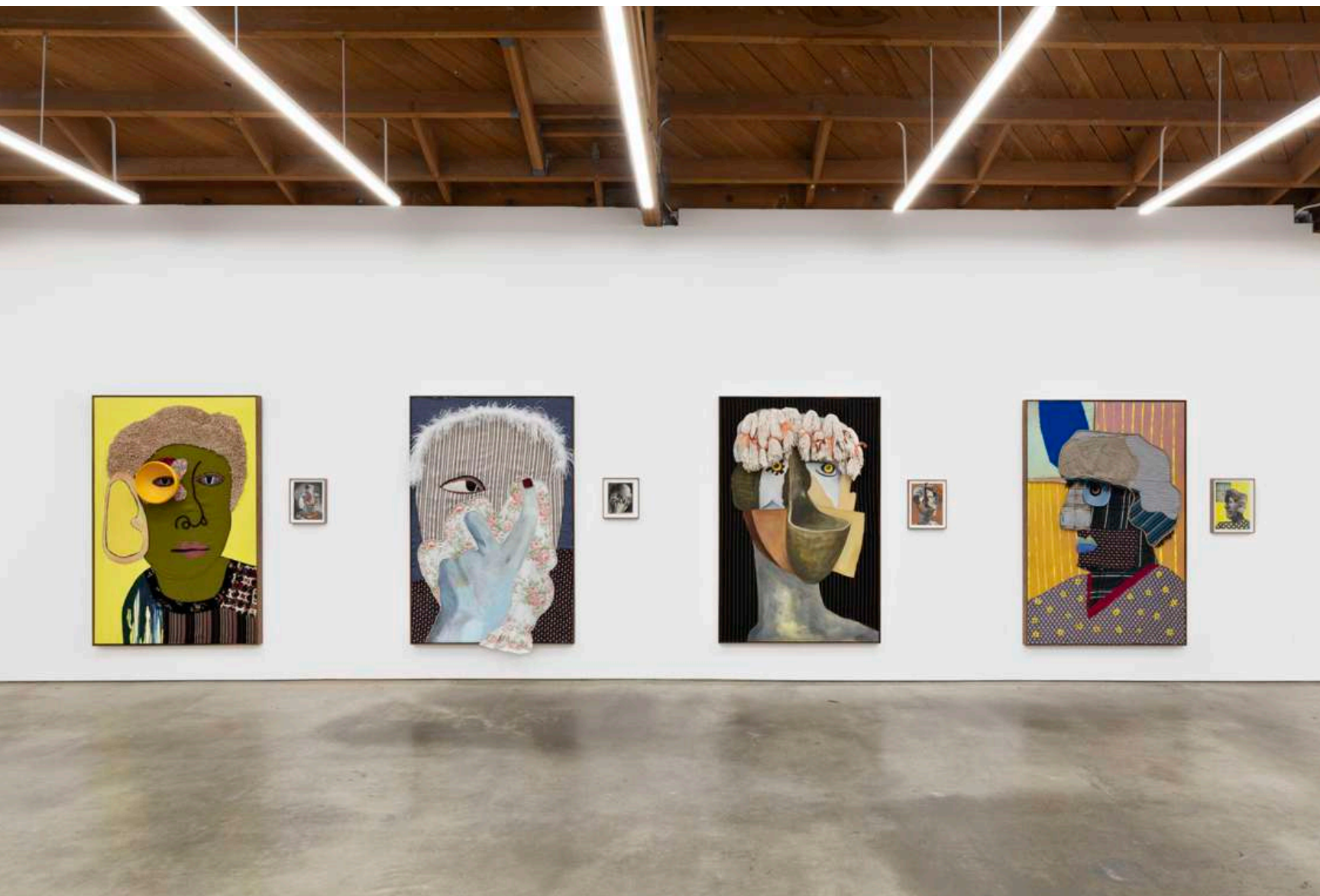
Saxon-Hill's stylistic slippage of knowing, generated from the diversity of her materials and manner of her making, is also evident in her, often surreal, paper collages. Obfuscating context, Saxon-Hill's collages most often draw their source material from the textures, shadows, and shapes of published documentation of sculpture. This folding origin and general material uncertainty imbue the collages' characters with juxtapositions that startle or evoke empathy.

In addition to her works on panel and collage works - her sculptures anticipate their relationship to a staged performance and work to ensure that they are capable of conversing with the daily news in installation. At times, her figurative assemblages are found marching in protest around gallery walls or otherwise are organized as a pedestrian frieze. Adding to dimension, the sculptures can be 'read' and further understood through the distinct material lists for each piece which are often long and poetic as they name selected finery and detritus alongside more traditional studio materials.

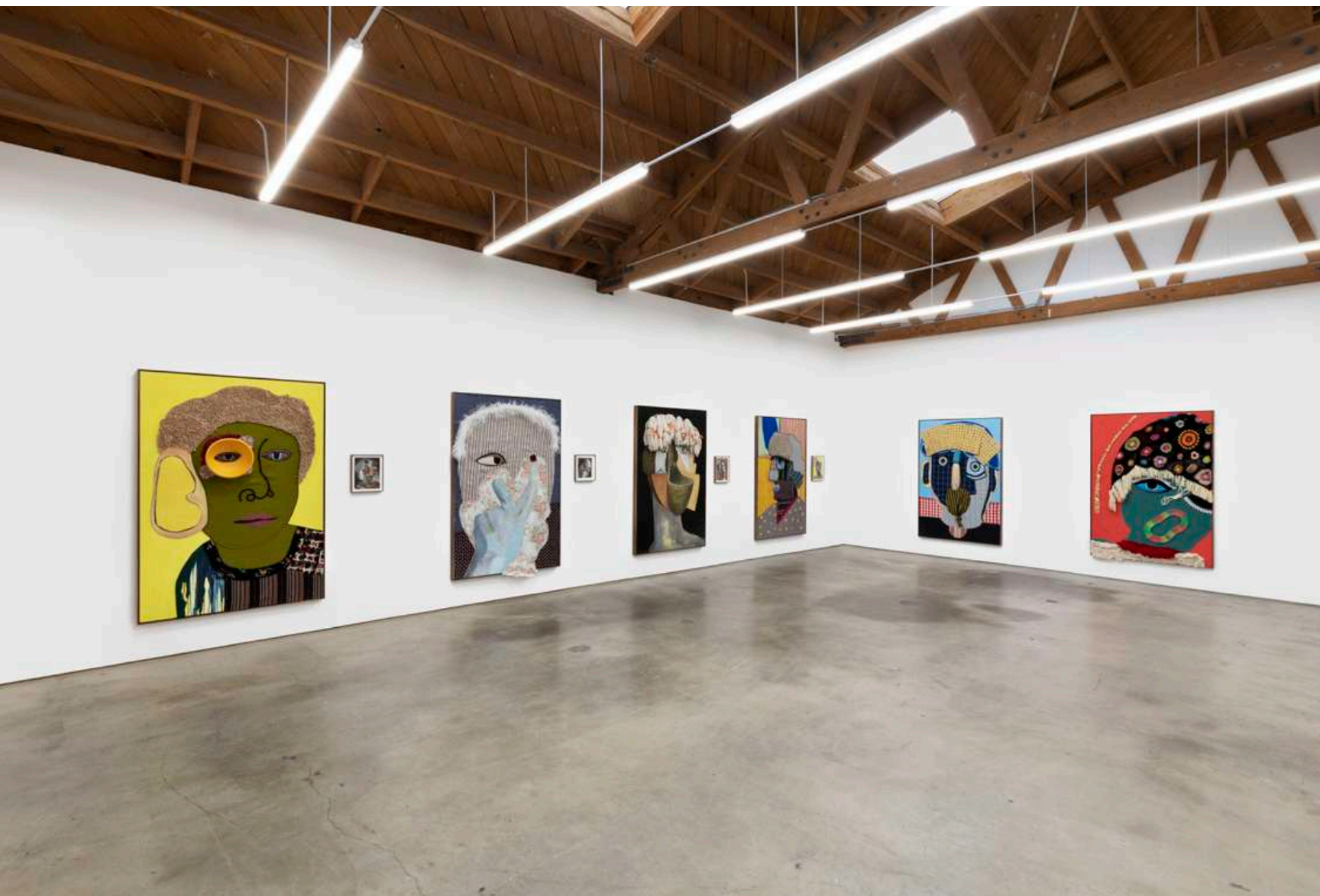
Blair Saxon-Hill was born in 1979 in Eugene, Oregon and studied studio art at Reed College. She has lived and worked in Portland, Oregon for over 15 years. Blair Saxon-Hill has been awarded fellowships from the Joan Mitchell Foundation, Oregon Arts Commission and the Hallie Ford Foundation. Her work has recently been exhibited at the 500m Museum in Sapporo, Japan, JOAN in Los Angeles, VENUS Over Los Angeles, Maccarone LA, the Hallie Ford Museum and Artist Curated Projects. Saxon-Hill's work has been reviewed in numerous arts' publications and two recent solo exhibitions received ArtForum Critics' Picks. Additionally, Saxon-Hill's publications with SoberSCOPE Press and Colpa are forthcoming. Blair Saxon-Hill will be included in the New Museum International Triennial of Contemporary Art opening this year.



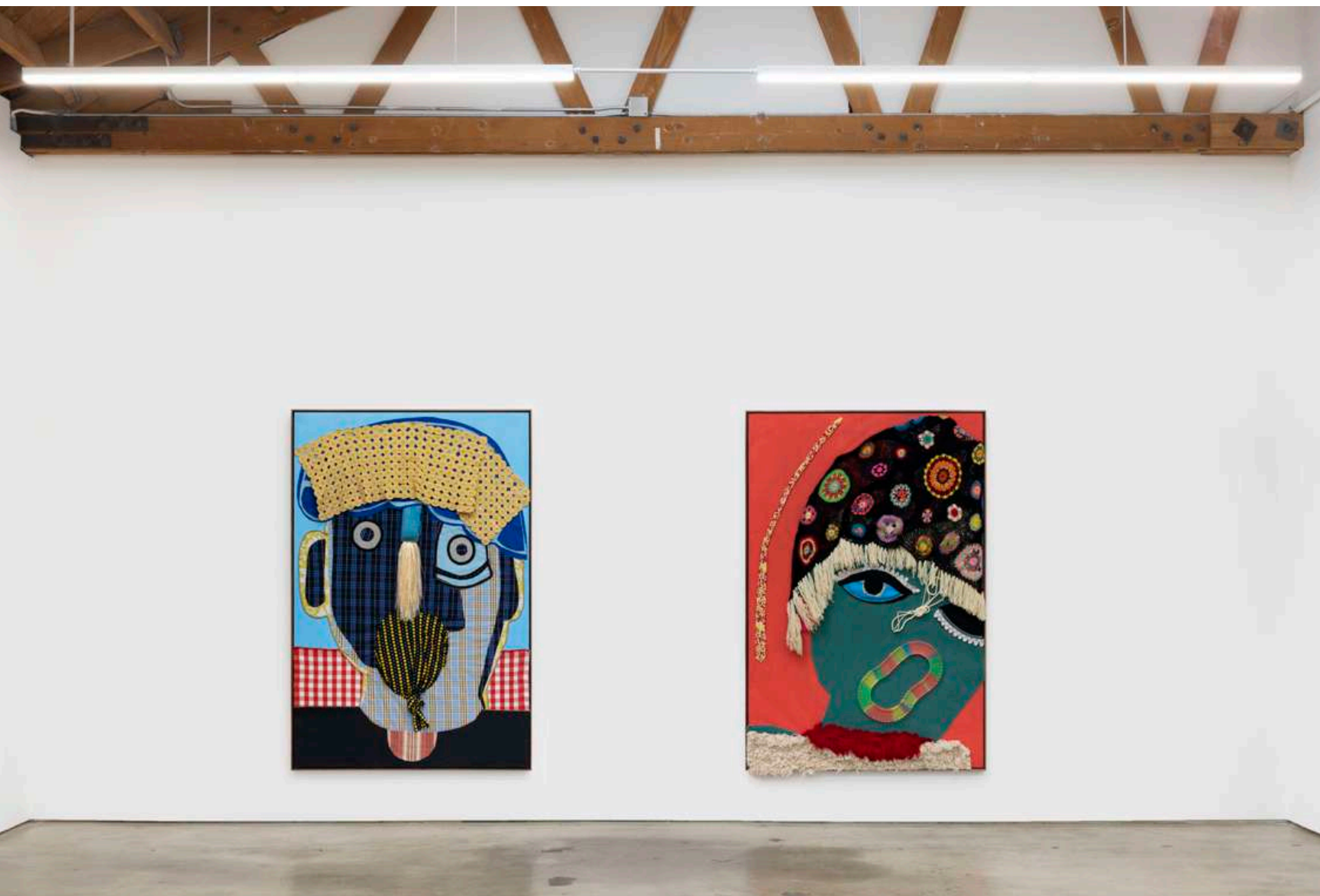
Installation View of Blair Saxon-Hill, Viewing Room, FRIEZE, NEW YORK (May 5-9, 2021)
Nino Mier Gallery



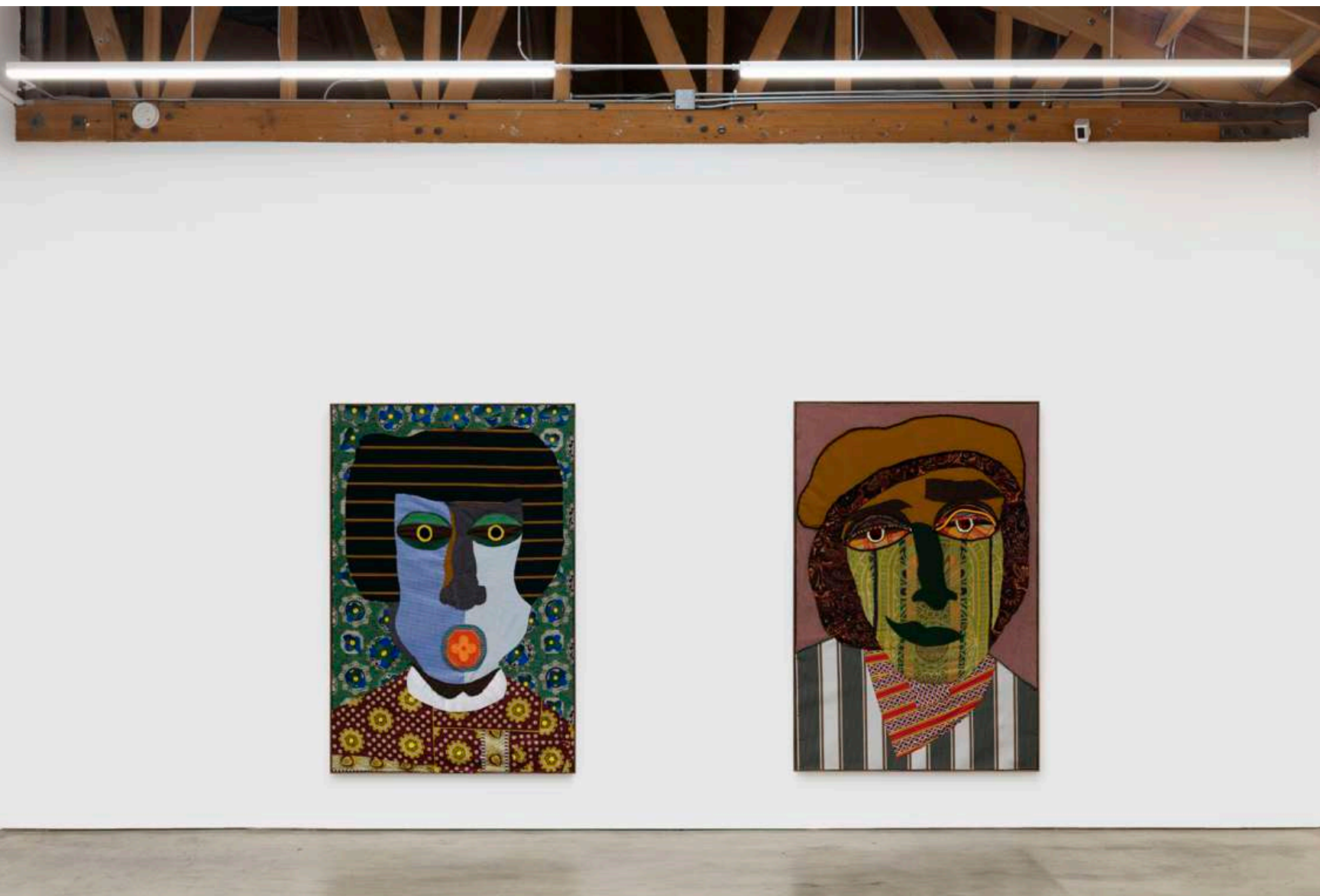
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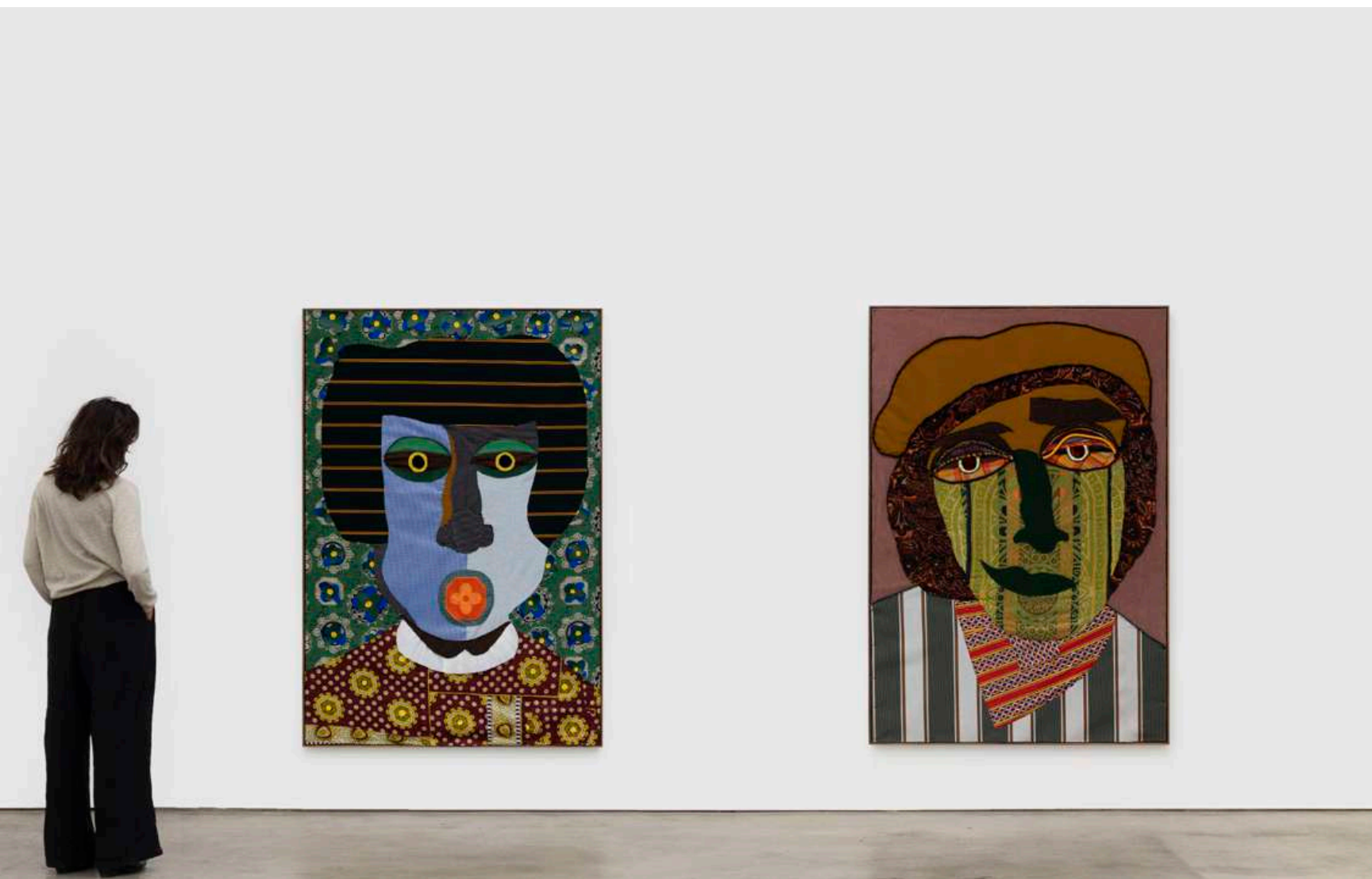
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Fevered Prayer, 2021
Mixed fabrics, section of 30's quilt, leather mitten, hula skirt, oil on
canvas wrapped panel
76 x 50 in
193 x 127 cm
(BSH21.011)





Kiki de Montparnasse, 2021
Mixed fabrics including mohair and tulle, pearls, tie, boa, mop
head, carpet, plastic toy, plastic tablecloth, crocheted blanket,
rope, and oil on canvas wrapped panel
193 x 127 cm
76 x 50 in
(BSH21.007)





Wallflower, 2021
Mixed fabrics and towel on canvas wrapped panel
193 x 127 cm
76 x 50 in
(BSH21.008)





Poet, 2021
Mixed fabrics including mohair and Naugahyde, rope, exercise equipment rubber tubing, and vintage towel on canvas wrapped panel
193 x 127 cm
76 x 50 in
(BSH21.005)





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Silent Sounds, 2021
Mixed fabrics, rope, leather, Tupperware, quilt, bathmat and oil on canvas
wrapped panel
193 x 127 cm
76 x 50 in
(BSH21.006)





Huff (Legs, Peace, Skirt), 2021

Mixed fabrics, leather, rope, ostrich boa and oil on canvas mounted
panel

193 x 127 cm

76 x 50 in

(BSH21.001)





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Mother, 2021
Mop heads, fabric and oil paint on canvas wrapped panel
193 x 127 cm
76 x 50 in
(BSH21.003)





Daisy Stayed Hopeful, 2021

Mixed fabrics, Tupperware, metal, woven blanket, wood, oil on canvas
wrapped panel
193 x 127 cm
76 x 50 in
(BSH21.002)





Die Kissing, 2021

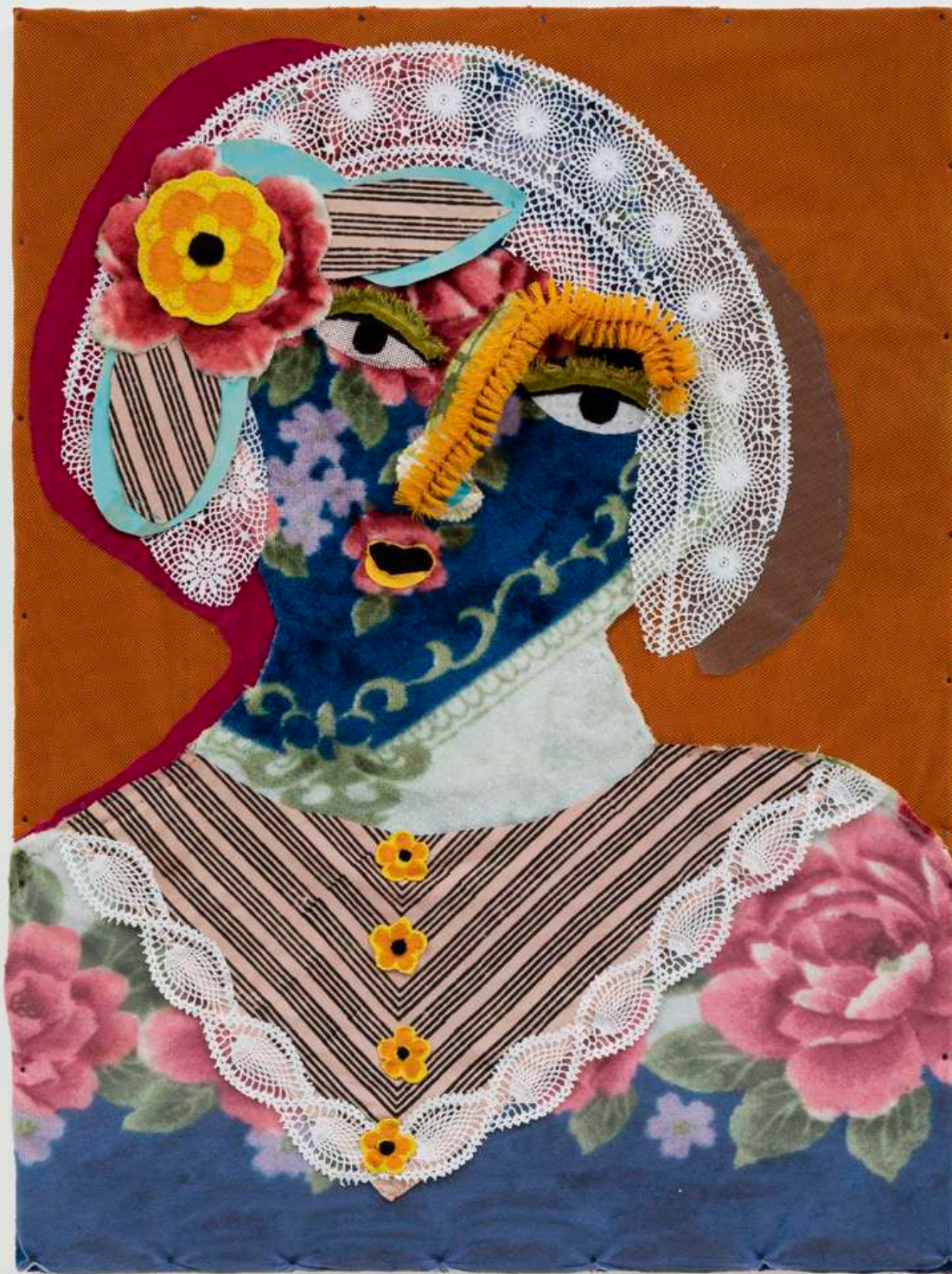
Mixed fabrics, rope, quilt and oil on canvas wrapped panel

76 x 50 in

193 x 127 cm

(BSH21.004)





More Than A Pretty Girl, 2021

Mixed fabrics including velvet and tulle, blanket, towel, plastic door screen, scrub brush, and oil paint on cut canvas mounted to canvas wrapped panel.

121.9 x 91.4 cm

48 x 36 in

(BSH21.009)

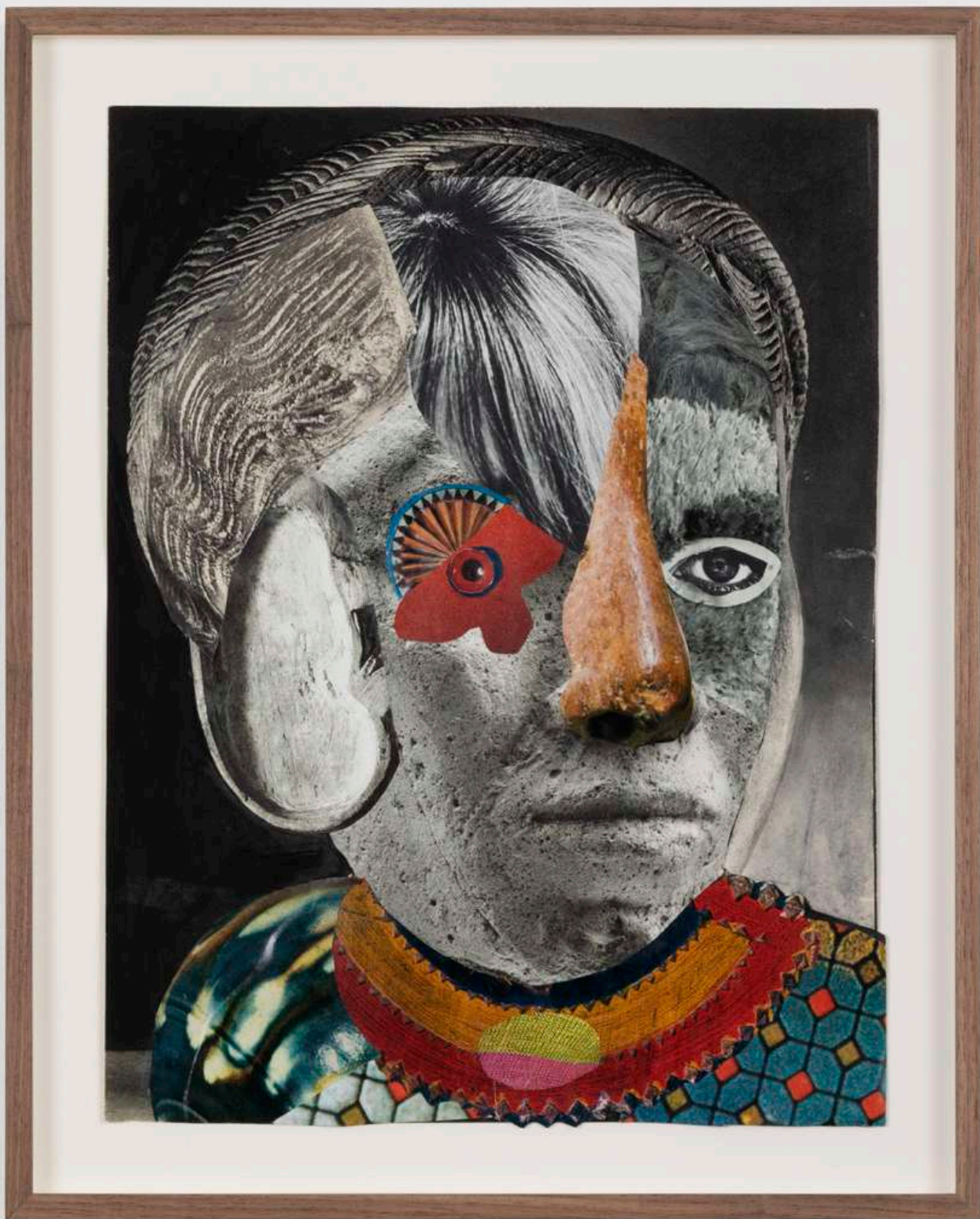




COLLAGES



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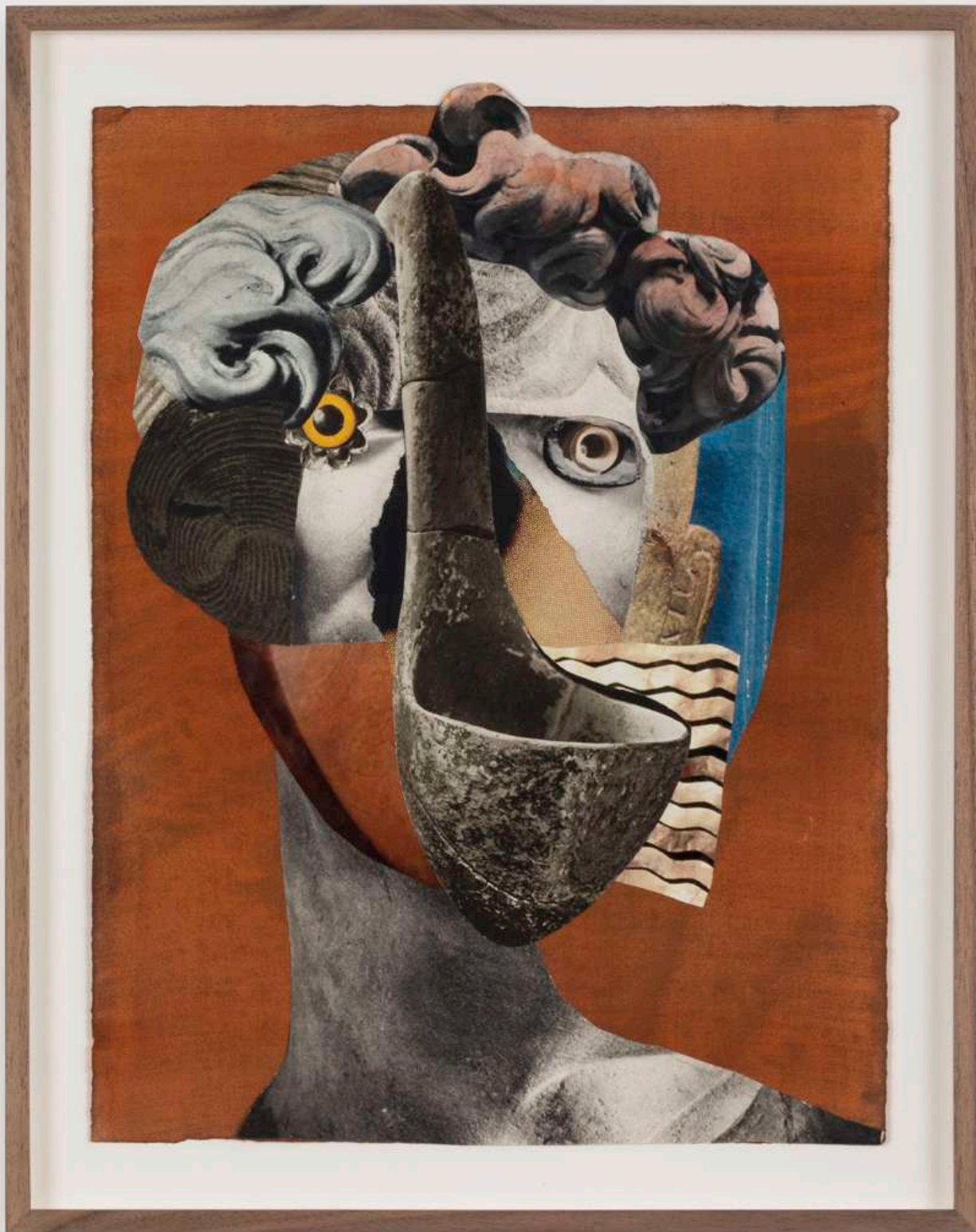
Ringing, 2021
Book page collage on book page
11 x 8 3/4 in (unframed)
27.9 x 22.2 cm
14 x 11 1/4 x 1 1/2 in (framed)
35.6 x 28.6 x 3.8 cm
(BSH21.015)





Still Watching, 2021
Book page collage
10 1/2 x 9 in (unframed)
26.7 x 22.9 cm
12 3/4 x 11 1/2 x 1 1/2 in (framed)
32.4 x 29.2 x 3.8 cm
(BSH21.016)





Untitled (Ladle, Break, Horn Solo), 2020
Book page collage and watercolor on mulberry
13 1/4 x 10 in (unframed)
33.7 x 25.4 cm
15 1/2 x 12 1/4 x 1 1/2 in (framed)
39.4 x 31.1 x 3.8 cm
(BSH21.017)





Daisy Stayed Hopeful, 2021
Book page collage and watercolor on cotton rag
15 x 11 in (unframed)
38.1 x 27.9 cm
17 1/4 x 13 1/2 x 1 1/2 in (framed)
43.8 x 34.3 x 3.8 cm
(BSH21.024)





Frothy Beach, 2021
Book page collage and watercolor on cotton rag
11 x 15 in (unframed)
27.9 x 38.1 cm
17 1/4 x 13 1/2 x 1 1/2 in (framed)
43.8 x 34.3 x 3.8 cm
(BSH21.026)





They Wore Desire (Pearls and Strands' Picket Fence), 2021
Book page collage and watercolor on cotton rag
15 x 11 in (unframed)
38.1 x 27.9 cm
17 1/2 x 13 3/8 x 1 1/2 in (framed)
44.5 x 34 x 3.8 cm
(BSH21.025)





Sweet Dreams, 2021
Book page collage and watercolor on cotton rag
15 x 11 in (unframed)
38.1 x 27.9 cm
17 1/4 x 13 1/2 x 1 1/2 in (framed)
43.8 x 34.3 x 3.8 cm
(BSH21.022)





Cheek to Cheek, 2021

Book page collage and watercolor on cotton rag

15 x 11 in (unframed)

38.1 x 27.9 cm

17 1/4 x 13 1/2 x 1 1/2 in (framed)

43.8 x 34.3 x 3.8 cm

(BSH21.018)





Let's Pretend It Is A Surprise, 2021

Book page collage and watercolor on cotton rag

15 x 11 in (unframed)

38.1 x 27.9 cm

17 1/4 x 13 1/2 x 1 1/2 in (framed)

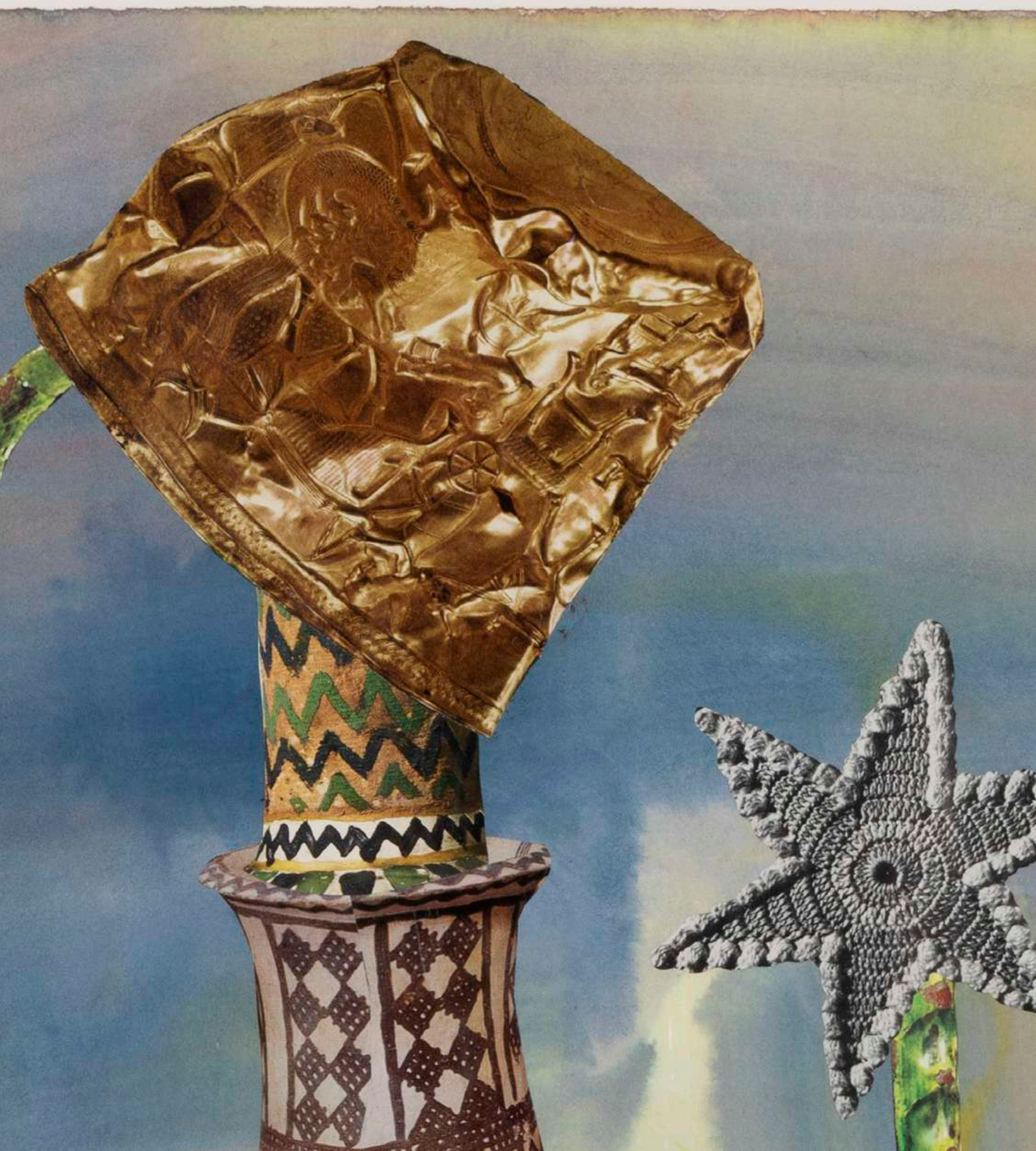
43.8 x 34.3 x 3.8 cm

(BSH21.020)





Persistent Bloomer, 2021
Book page collage and watercolor on cotton rag
15 x 11 in (unframed)
38.1 x 27.9 cm
17 1/4 x 13 1/2 x 1 1/2 in (framed)
43.8 x 34.3 x 3.8 cm
(BSH21.027)





Tired with a Mask, 2021

Book page collage and watercolor on cotton rag

15 x 11 in (unframed)

38.1 x 27.9 cm

17 1/4 x 13 1/2 x 1 1/2 in (framed)

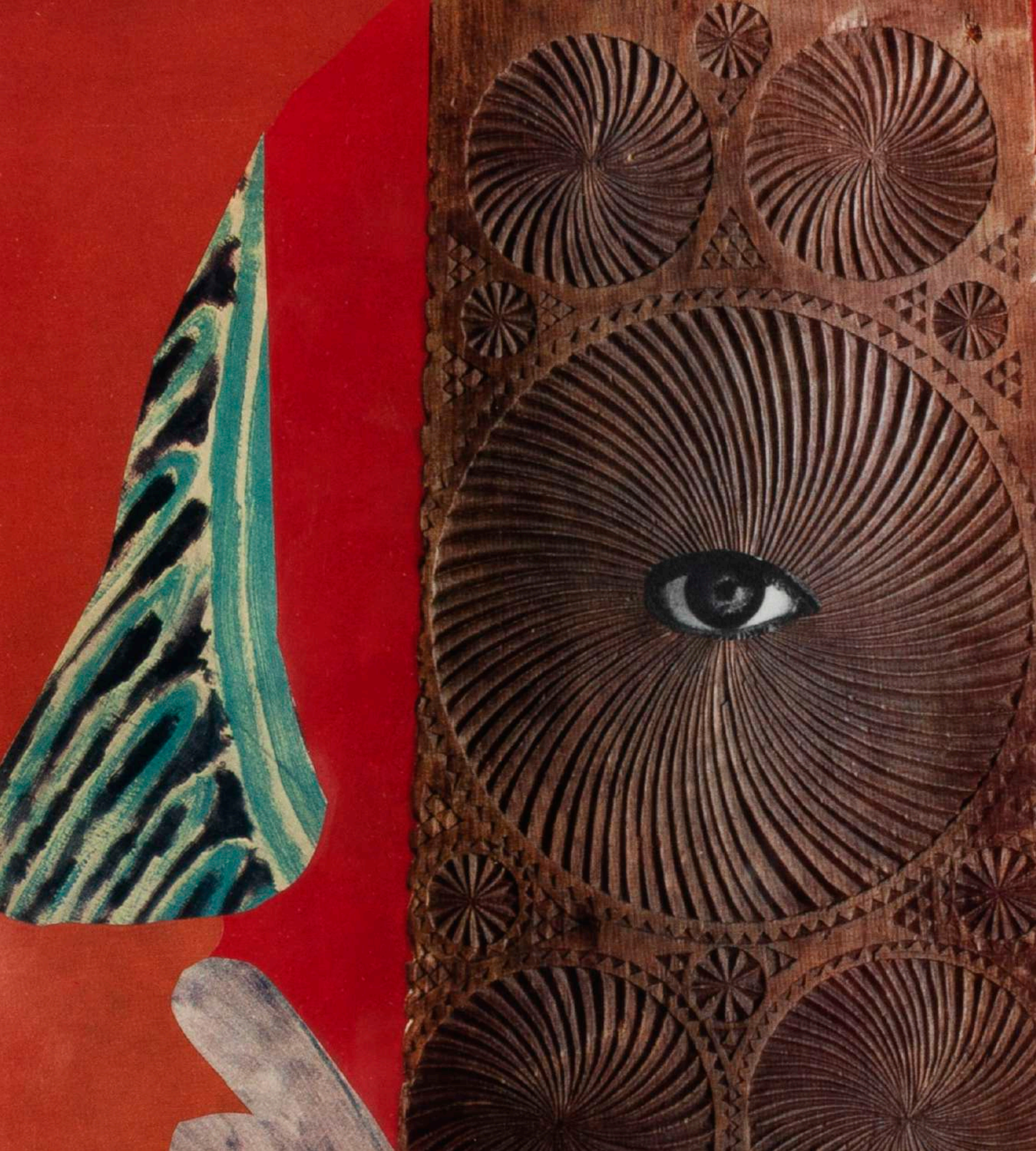
43.8 x 34.3 x 3.8 cm

(BSH21.021)





Sunday Morning Weaver, 2021
Book page collage on book page
9 1/2 in x 7 3/4 (unframed)
19.7 x 24.1 cm
12 x 10 1/4 x 1 1/2 in (framed)
30.5 x 26 x 3.8 cm
(BSH21.013)





Bust of a January News Insomniac, 2021

Book page collage mounted on
watercolor paper

7 1/2 x 10 1/2 in (unframed)

19.1 x 26.7 cm

13 x 9 3/4 x 1 1/2 in (framed)

33 x 24.8 x 3.8 cm

(BSH21.014)





BLM Stick and Poke, 2021
Collage and watercolor on cotton rag
15 x 11 in (unframed)
38.1 x 27.9 cm
17 1/4 x 13 1/2 x 1 1/2 in (framed)
43.8 x 34.3 x 3.8 cm
(BSH21.019)





Toss, 2021
Book collage and watercolor on cotton rag
15 x 11 in (unframed)
38.1 x 27.9 cm
17 x 13 3/8 x 11/2 in (framed)
43.2 x 34 x 3.8 cm
(BSH21.023)





BLAIR SAXON-HILL

Born 1979, Eugene, Oregon,
Lives and works in Portland, Oregon

EDUCATION

Reed College, Studio Art

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 As If Without Us We Could Be We, Nino Mier Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2017 LAID ME OUT, Tahoe Gallery, Sierra Nevada College, Incline Village, NV
- 2017 Diagnostic, Artist Curated Projects, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 to no ending except ourselves, JOAN, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015 No Edge to Nature, Fourteen30 Contemporary, Portland, OR
- 2014 From the Beginning (Yet Further On), Littman Gallery, Portland, OR
Confounding Medium, North View Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2011 Tonal Sequence, Fourteen30 Contemporary, Portland, OR
- 2002 Evocation of the Empathetic Response Through a Material Linguistic,
Feldenheimer Gallery, Reed College, Portland, OR

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 New Museum International Triennial of Contemporary Art (Forthcoming)
- 2021 The Inaugural Exhibition, Nino Mier Gallery, Brussels, BE
- 2020 Gest, Nino Mier Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2020 Five Year Anniversary Exhibition, Nino Mier, Los Angeles, CA
- 2020 Indie Folk, Adams & Ollman, Portland, OR
- 2020 PAPER (and one on wood), Nino Mier, Los Angeles, CA
- 2020 What Needs To Be Said, Disjecta, Portland, OR
- 2019 What Needs To Be Said, Hallie Ford Museum of Art, Salem, OR
What Needs To Be Said, Umpqua Community College, Roseburg, OR
- 2018 Pussy, King of the Pirates, MacCarone, Los Angeles, CA
- 2017 Concrete Island, VENUS Over Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 Sister City Project: Portland, 500m Museum, Sapporo, Japan
Outside the Museum, PICA's TBA Festival, Pioneer Courthouse Square, Portland, OR
Out of Sight, King Street Station, Seattle, WA
Good Neighbor, Seattle University's Hedreen Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2015 Stilleven: Contemporary Still Life, Hallie Ford Museum of Art, Salem, OR
The World Is Not The Earth, Adams & Ollman Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2014 Portland2014: A Biennial of Contemporary Art, Disjecta Contemporary Art Center, Portland, OR

- 2013 Subject, Answer, Countersubject, Disjecta Center for Contemporary Art, Portland, OR
- 2012 Interior Margins, The Lumber Room, Portland, OR

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2020 Oregon Arts Commission Career Opportunity Grant
- 2018 Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters and Sculptors Fellowship
- 2017 Oregon Arts Commission Career Opportunity Grant
- 2016 Hallie Ford Family Foundation Fellowship
Oregon Arts Commission Fellowship
- 2013 Oregon Arts Commission Career Opportunity Grant
Ford Family Foundation Career Opportunity Grant
Ford Family Foundation Golden Spot Award
- 2010 Regional Arts and Culture Council Professional Development Grant

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2021 Murray, Yxta Maya, "GEST," The Brooklyn Rail, February 2021
- 2019 Nawi, Diana, ed. What Needs to Be Said. Hallie Ford Museum of Art, 2019.
- 2017 Whiteford, Meg. "Critic's Pick," ArtForum Magazine, January 2017
Wagley, Catherine. "5 Art Shows to See in L.A. This Week," LA Weekly, December 14, 2016.
- 2016 Pinter, Antonia, ed. Women's Autobiographical Artists' Books: Volume II. Publication Studio.
Speer, Richard. "2015 Top Ten: Portland," VisualArtSource.com, January 2016.
- 2015 Snyder, Stephanie. "Critic's Pick," ArtForum Magazine, May 2015.
Kim, Hye-Mi. "Portland: The Creative & Artistic Life?" pgs: 20-27
Cosmopolitan Magazine Korea. January 7, 2015.
- 2014 Nishiyama, Isao. "Blair Saxon-Hill," [Cover story of bilingual Japanese magazine] pgs. 82-97
Knock: The Studio Journal, Issue 3, 2014.
Griffin, Jonathan. "Portland2014," Frieze Magazine, June/July 2014.

