

## Expungement

This is an exhibition of recent works that are informed by the concept of “play”. Though some may define play partially as an absence of rules or objectives, I am defining it as dealing with rules or expectations through reaction and improvisation. It is exactly the experience of navigating between what is possible and what is expected that makes play immersive and creative. These paintings are intended to give the viewer an experience analogous to play through unstable identities and shifting perceptions.

Expungement is the process of erasing, and references the literal masking and layering in the paintings. Figuratively, it references the shifting understanding of marks as abstract shapes, as physical forms, and as representations. New perceptions nullify previous ones. Much like how a card game is learned through picking up rules and strategies as it is played, this visual experience is an active one. A typical understanding of rules in painting is subverted through decisions that defy those expectations. The paintings contain physical valleys or extend out from the surface, and lack a specific uniformity from one to another. The degree to which each painting respects its boundaries is variable, as is the treatment of material within each work. Paint and materials are used to create tension between what appears soft and hard, flat or dimensional, abstract or representational. Play is what exists in between these states of perception.

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