

Easily Amused

solo show

Brian Cirmo





“Easily Amused continues my exploration of the ordinary moments, gestures, and encounters that shape our understanding of ourselves and the world around us. Drawing from personal observation, memory, popular culture, western painting, and the visual language of contemporary America, the paintings transform familiar experiences into images that feel at once recognizable and uncertain.

The exhibition's title borrows a phrase often used as a criticism. It suggests a culture drawn toward distraction, spectacle, and immediate gratification, while also raising questions about attention itself: what captures it, what holds it, and what slips quietly past. I am interested in the tension between those ideas.



I have spent the past two decades traveling across the United States, exploring large cities, small towns, museums, national parks, Civil War battlefields, assassination sites, graveyards, and national monuments. I am a lifelong student of the American experience and the stories a culture tells about itself. These places and histories continue to inform my work, not as subjects to be illustrated, but as sources of atmosphere, memory, and association.

The paintings emerge from a world that feels increasingly mediated, where personal experience, collective memory, and the images that surround us are often difficult to untangle. Rather than offering fixed narratives, I am interested in allowing ambiguity to remain and in creating spaces where different meanings can coexist.

Humor, melancholy, and unease often occupy the same territory. I hope the paintings encourage a slower way of looking, one that leaves room for reflection and for questions that resist simple answers.” – Brian Cirimo

Brian Cirimo (b. 1977) is an internationally exhibiting artist and recipient of the Lillian Orlowsky and William Freed Foundation Grant, awarded by the Provincetown Art Association and Museum. His solo exhibitions include 532 Gallery Thomas Jaeckel (New York, NY); ProjekTraum FN (Friedrichshafen, Germany); and Munson Museum (Utica, NY). Selected group exhibitions include the Provincetown Art Association and Museum (MA); GR Gallery (New York, NY); 19 Karen Gallery (Australia); the Boston Center for the Arts (Boston, MA); and The Hyde Collection (Glens Falls, NY). His work has also been featured in multiple art fairs, including CONTEXT Miami, Pinta Miami, and Aspen Art.

Cirimo has been an artist-in-residence at Millay Arts, the Saltonstall Foundation, Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild, ChaNorth, Lake Constance Cultural Department (Salem, Germany), Vermont Studio Center, the Elizabeth Murray Artist Residency, and Salem Art Works. His work has appeared in *New American Paintings*, the *Brooklyn Review*, *Vast Magazine*, and *Studio Visit Magazine*.

As a curator, Cirimo has organized exhibitions such as *Our Heads and Masters of War* at Albany Center Gallery; *Abstract /'kelCHer/* at the OCC Art Gallery (SUNY Onondaga, Syracuse, NY); and *The Roaring Twenties* at Joyce Goldstein Gallery (Chatham, NY).

Born and raised in Utica, NY, Cirimo holds an M.F.A. from the State University of New York at Albany and a B.F.A. from The College of Saint Rose. He also studied at Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute (now Pratt Munson). He lives and works in Albany, NY, and is an Assistant Professor at Russell Sage College.





Ordinary

Oil on panel | 35 x 27 cm

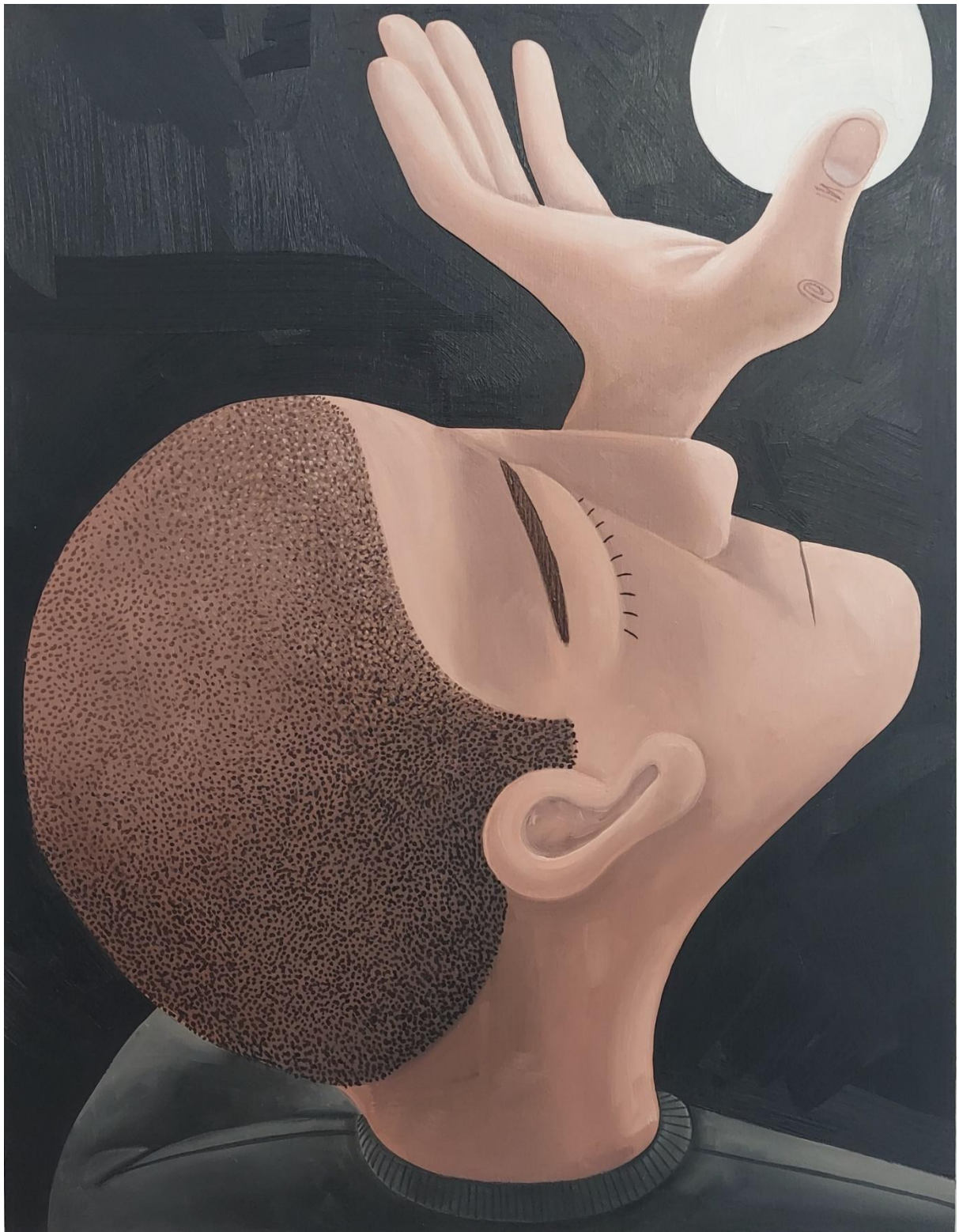
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Raincoat

Oil on panel | 35 x 27 cm

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Watt

Oil on panel | 35 x 27 cm

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Black Door

Oil on panel | 35 x 27 cm

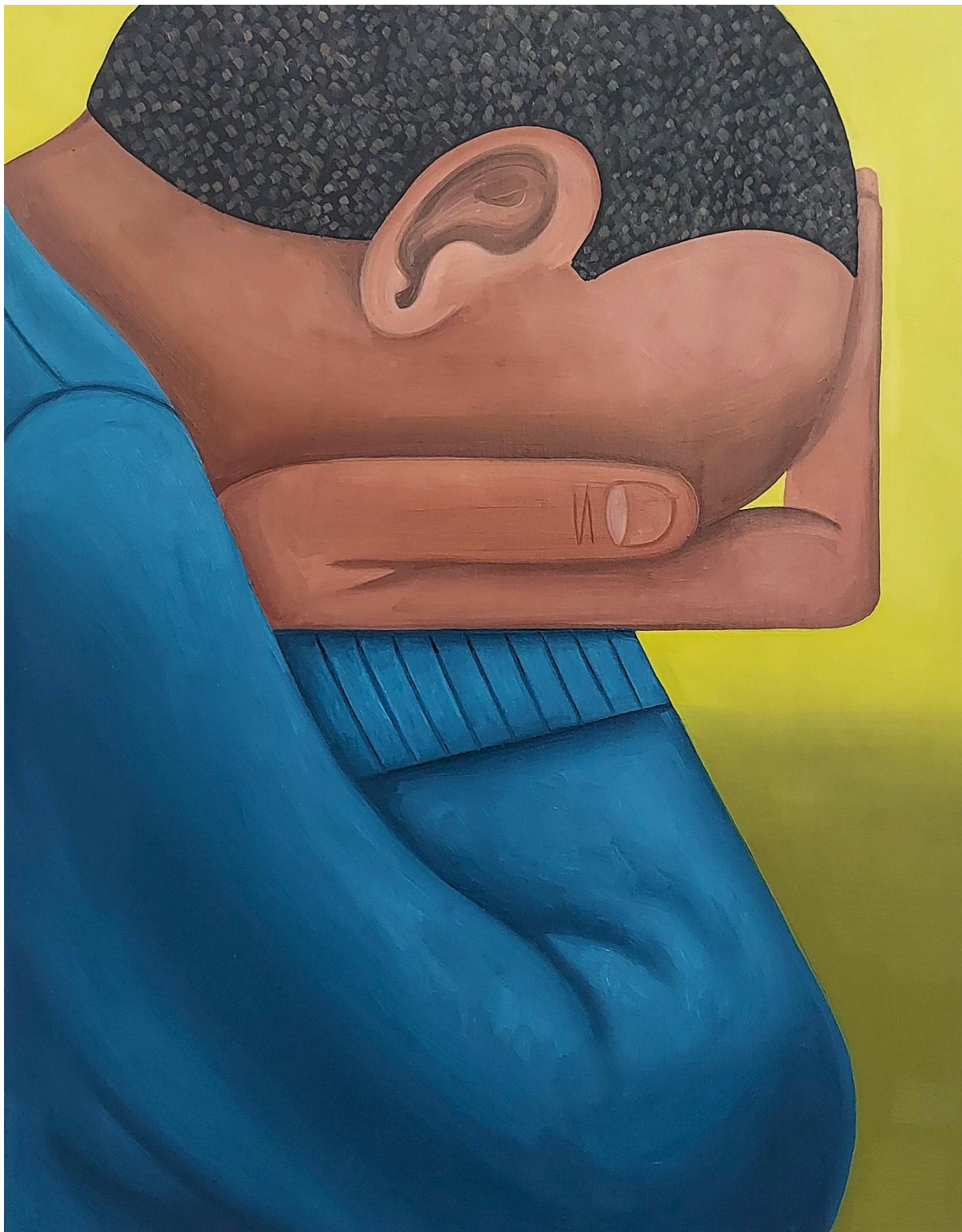
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Threshold

Oil on panel | 35 x 27 cm

\$1600 AUD



Bury 2

Oil on panel | 35 x 27 cm

\$1600 AUD



Deaf

Oil on panel | 35 x 27 cm

\$1600 AUD



Draft

Oil on panel | 35 x 27 cm

\$1600 AUD



Neck Deep

Oil on panel | 35 x 27 cm

\$1600 AUD



Screen

Oil on panel | 35 x 27 cm

\$1600 AUD



Prayer

Oil on panel | 35 x 27 cm

\$1600 AUD



Opaque

Oil on panel | 35 x 27 cm

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Broken

Oil on panel | 35 x 27 cm

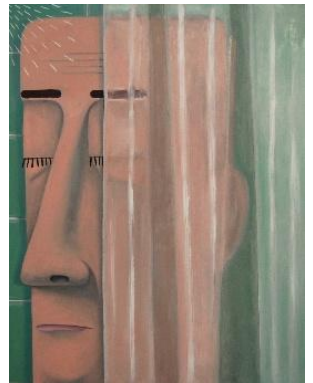
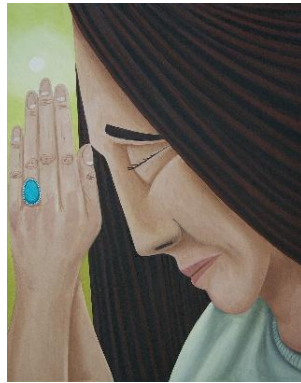
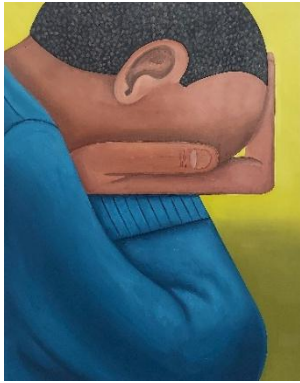
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Move Over

Oil on panel | 35 x 27 cm

\$1600 AUD



19 KAREN

contemporary **artspace**