

# HOLLIS TAGGART

## Hollis Taggart Southport to Open *A Way of Feeling: Thomas Agrinier, Hollis Heichemer, and Anna Pietrzak*

### A Group Exhibition Featuring Works by Three Contemporary Artists On View January 2nd - February 6th, 2021

Southport, CT—On January 2nd, Hollis Taggart Southport will open *A Way of Feeling*, a three-person exhibition featuring new and recent paintings by contemporary artists Thomas Agrinier, Hollis Heichemer, and Anna Pietrzak. The exhibition highlights Agrinier, Heichemer, and Pietrzak's distinct explorations of the Romantic tradition by emphasizing an appreciation of nature, imagination, emotion, and transcendent experiences. Curated by Paul Efstathiou, Director of Contemporary, the exhibition will open in our Southport, CT location (330 Pequot Avenue) and will be on view through February 6th. An opening reception will take place on January 2nd, 5pm-8pm. Masks will be required and all COVID protocols will be followed.

Working with gold leaf and acrylic on wood panel and canvas, Anna Pietrzak creates compositions inspired by the human body and nature in which forms lean against each other, held in striking tension. While Pietrzak's forms are reductive, their arrangements and shimmering surfaces are monumental and emotive, evoking the history of the sublime. Thomas Agrinier's paintings feature dramatic conflicts between several protagonists, highlighting the complexities of human relationships. The mysterious and unsettling narratives are told through dynamic poses and gestures, with natural scenery used to heighten the intensity. Contemplative and intuitive, Heichemer's gestural landscape paintings capture her personal experiences of nature. Finding inspiration in quiet moments in the woods around her New Hampshire studio, she memorializes and transforms them into poetic abstractions.

"We are thrilled to present a diverse collection of works by three contemporary practitioners who are based in New Hampshire, New York City and Paris, France to our Fairfield County community," said Paul Efstathiou. "Their bold and beautiful compositions exemplify the artistic practices of today, and together spark a powerful dialogue on Romanticism."

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**Thomas Agrinier** was born in 1976 in Lyon, France and lives and works in Paris. His solo exhibitions include Mark Hachem, Paris, Galerie Estace, Paris, and Galerie Dukan, Paris. He has also exhibited at BLAM Projects, Los Angeles, Ostrale Biennial for Contemporary Art Dresden, Scope Basel with Galerie Estace, and at Art Paris Art Fair with Mark Hachem.

**Hollis Heichemer**, a gallery artist, has been the subject of solo exhibitions at Gross McCleaf Gallery and Rosenfeld Gallery in Philadelphia, J. Cacciola Gallery in New York, and most recently in 2019 at Hollis Taggart in her exhibition *Happenstance*. She has participated in a wide range of group exhibitions, including *Stay Inspired* currently at Dolby Chadwick Gallery in San Francisco. Born in Binghamton, New York and currently living and working in New Hampshire, she received her BS from Ohio University and her MA from Seton Hall University.

**Anna Pietrzak** A first-generation Polish-American, Anna Pietrzak grew up in Indiana and received a MA in Architecture from the University of Cincinnati. Her work has been featured in group exhibitions at Trotter & Sholer Gallery, New York City, In Passing Gallery, New York City, and ZH Projects, New York City and at the Woolwich Contemporary Print Fair, London. Her solo exhibition *Before Shadows* opened at The Place gallery in Dumbo, Brooklyn in March 2020.

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## **About Hollis Taggart**

Founded in 1979, Hollis Taggart presents significant works of American art, showcasing the trajectory of American art movements from the Hudson River School to American Modernism and the Post-War and Contemporary eras. Its program is characterized by a deep commitment to scholarship and bringing to the fore the work of under-recognized artists. The gallery has sponsored several catalogue raisonné projects, most recently for the American Surrealist artist Kay Sage, and has been instrumental in advancing knowledge of such compelling artists as Alfred Maurer, Arthur B. Carles, and more recently, Theodoros Stamos, Marjorie Strider and Michael (Corinne) West. In the summer of 2019, the gallery announced the formal expansion of its primary market business and focus on the presentation of contemporary work. It continues to expand its roster of contemporary artists, focusing on emerging and mid-career talents. With more than 40 years of experience, Hollis Taggart is widely recognized by collectors and curators for its leadership, expertise, and openness, on matters of art history, and market trends and opportunities.

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