

# Anton Kern Gallery

**Leo Mock**

***There are kisses left undelivered***

Opening March 7, 2025

In Mock's paintings, the natural world is alien—unmistakably different from our own, despite sharing features such as horizon lines, rocky ground, and light-filled skies. The building blocks of each landscape are taken from our Earth, but are rearranged and reconfigured to make something altogether new. Reds and greens hail from above. Bubble gum pink clouds hurtle across the picture plane. The same land formations reach upwards and towards the top of the canvas. Rendered in an equally muddy and bright palette, the artist's ominous atmospheres nod to predecessors like Yves Tanguy, specifically his low horizon lines, and the agoraphobic, deserted landscapes of Giorgio de Chirico.



*"The Young Untold,"* 2025, Oil on linen, 30 x 40 inches  
(76.2 x 101.6 cm)

Leo Mock (b. 1964, Los Angeles, CA) graduated from ArtCenter College of Design in Pasadena, California. He has exhibited at China Art Objects, M+B, and Galerie Guido W. Baudach, among others. Recent press includes The New York Times, Art Review, and artillery magazine. Mock lives and works in Mexico City, Mexico. In 2020, The New York Times article, "Artist-Run Galleries Defy the Mega-Dealer Trend in Los Angeles," revealed what had previously been an unspoken secret: Leo Mock is an alias—the artist's given name is Steve Hanson. Leo was his uncle's name; Mock, his mother's maiden name. As Hanson, he is the co-founder and director of China Art Objects, a gallery launched in the late 1990s by artists for artists, showing work by: Katherine Bernhardt, Sean Landers, Isa Genzken, Walead Beshty, Ruby Neri, Pae White, to name just a few. In 2019, Hanson relocated to Mexico. Since then, he has been making paintings and showing them under his chosen moniker.