

Han Bing, Richard Hoblock, Vian Sora, Lesley Vance

*Into the changed air*

7 Nov–20 Dec 2025

The Upstairs

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*Into the changed air* features works by four contemporary abstract painters, each developing atmospheric space through divergent approaches to mark making.

Han Bing (b. 1986, China; lives in Paris, France) builds palimpsestic compositions in which earlier gestures are deliberately left unobscured. She foregrounds jagged, overlapping edges which recall the remnants of torn street posters and advertisements of urban environments.

Han Bing holds an MFA from Parsons School of Design in New York and a BFA from the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing. Her first solo exhibition in a French institution took place at Passerelle Centre d'art contemporain, Brest, in 2024, and her work has also been shown in exhibitions at institutions including National Art Museum of China, Beijing; Le Consortium, Dijon; and UCCA Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, among others.

Richard Hoblock (b.1954, USA; lives in Orient, New York) works on oiled, unprimed wood panels, using the inherent directionality of woodgrain surfaces to dictate the beginnings of his compositions. Using a combination of brush and palette knife, Hoblock spreads arcs of color across the surfaces and pulls paint along angular, energetic lines to create tight compositions unique to each painting.

Hoblock has had solo exhibitions at 295 Artspace, Orient, New York; Anthony Meier Fine Arts, San Francisco; Kim Light Lightbox Gallery, Los Angeles; The Los Angeles Billboard Project, Los Angeles, and Chimento Contemporary, Los Angeles.

Recent group exhibitions include *To Bend the Ear of the Outer World*, Gagosian, London; *Color*, Brooklyn Waterfronts Artists Coalition, Brooklyn, New York; *Opposing the Binary*, Michael Kohn Gallery, Los Angeles; *Mark Hagen, Richard Hoblock, Lesley Vance*, Anthony Meier Fine Arts, San Francisco; *OUT OF THE BLUE*, Bortolami Gallery, New York.

Vian Sora (b. 1976, Iraq; lives in Louisville, Kentucky) pits the precision of hard edged painting against an approach rooted in both chance and dissolution. Crisp, calligraphic shapes are overlaid upon soft, colorful grounds. Sora works flat, dispersing powdered pigments into aqueous painting mediums so that colors might “bloom” into one another.

Sora is the subject of a career survey exhibition that originated at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art, is currently on view at the Speed Art Museum in Louisville, and will travel to Asia Society Texas in Houston next April. Sora will open her first solo exhibition at Bortolami in March 2026.

Sora's work is included in the collections of the Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore; Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego; KMAC Museum, Louisville; Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara; Speed Art Museum, Louisville; Grinnell College Museum of Art, USA; Dar Al Cid Museum, Kuwait City; Ministry of Culture Contemporary Collection, Baghdad, Iraq; the Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, Ohio; and the Shah Garg Foundation, among others.

Lesley Vance (b. 1977, USA; lives in Los Angeles, California) creates compositions in which distinctions of positive and negative space are deliberately confused. Slick, sinuous bands of monochromatic color encircle multicolor grounds which have been intentionally abraded to create textures reminiscent of the natural world.

Vance was the subject of a solo exhibition at the Columbus Museum of Art in 2023. Other recent solo exhibitions include FLAG Art Foundation, New York, Bowdoin College Museum of Art, Bowdoin, Maine, and The Huntington Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens, San Marino, California (with Ricky Swallow). Recent group exhibitions have been held at the Milwaukee Art Museum; Beaux-Arte de Paris; MCA Denver; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Milan; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; David Roberts Art Foundation, London; Dallas Museum of Art and The Whitney Biennial at The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York. Her paintings are featured in the public collections of the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; and the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, among others.

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