

DANIEL HOLLIER

BENT STRAIGHT, STRAIGHT BEND

February 6th - 28th, 2026

Inquiries

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FIVE WALLS GALLERY

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Wed-Sat 12-5pm

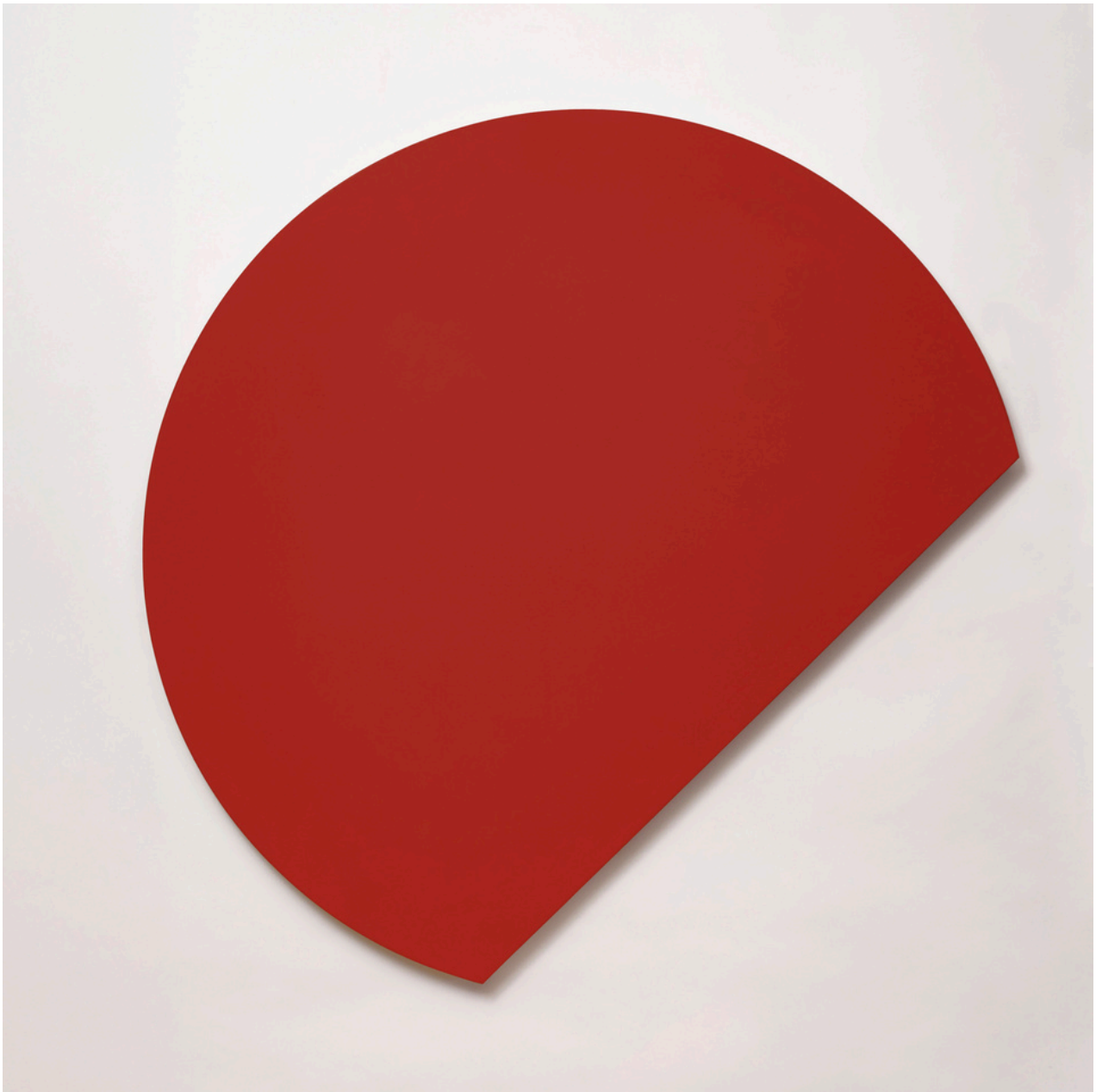
Bent Straight, Straight Bend brings together a body of paintings shaped by a deliberate tension between control and release. Although the works may initially read as precise, even machine-like, each is made outdoors, where conditions introduce an unavoidable lack of control. This is intentional. The paintings are constructed through processes that invite unpredictability, allowing humanness to quietly disrupt order.

Before painting, I spend time with the shape - listening, waiting, trying to tune into what it might suggest rather than imposing a fixed idea upon it. As layers of coloured ground are applied, I pause again to watch and reconsider: its form, its weight, its possible meanings. A painting may pass through several colours and compositions, accumulating decisions, hesitations and reversals along the way.

The works begin with a source, but they do not remain loyal to it. As the process unfolds, the paintings move away from translation and towards abstraction, absorbing multiple references that enter the conversation between shape, memory and material. I ask what the shape recalls, what colour it wants to be, and how far it is willing to bend away from its origins.

Rather than pursuing a preconceived mental image, I try to let those expectations fall away. What remains is a dialogue between painting and process, where the shape can assert itself - sometimes insisting on a different surface treatment, sometimes resisting resolution. In this space between bent and straight, intention and accident, the work finds its own uneasy balance.

Daniel Hollier, 2026



A red painting seen from a riverside pavilion
2025
synthetic Polymer Paint on Polyester
110 x 110 cm (Dimensions Variable)

\$7,200



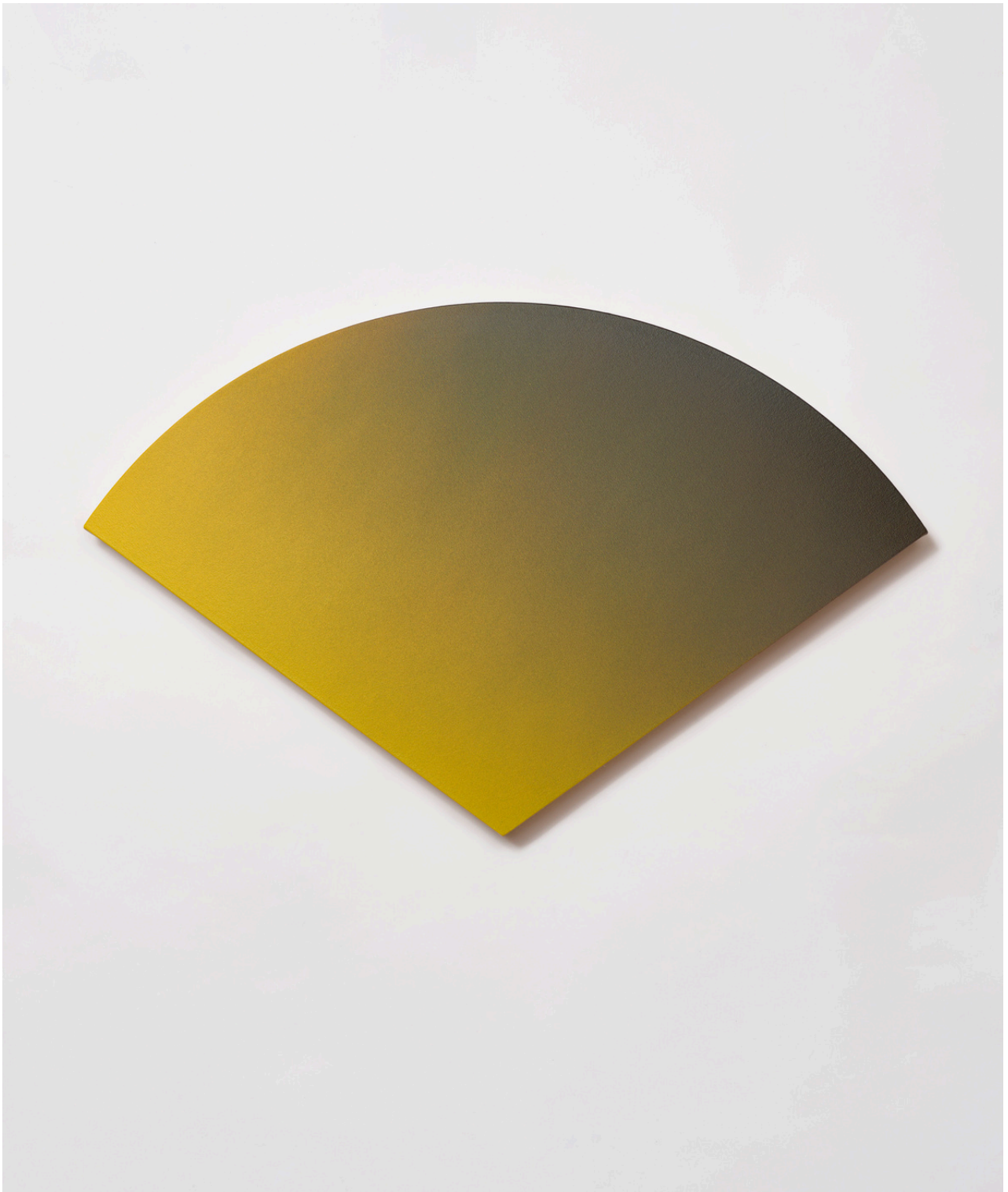
Awkward magic winking gently in the shadows of your mind

2025

synthetic Polymer Paint on Linen 2 Panels

107 x 82 cm (Dimensions Variable)

\$7,200



Dust storm in the void of invisible possibility; The canary's last melody
2025

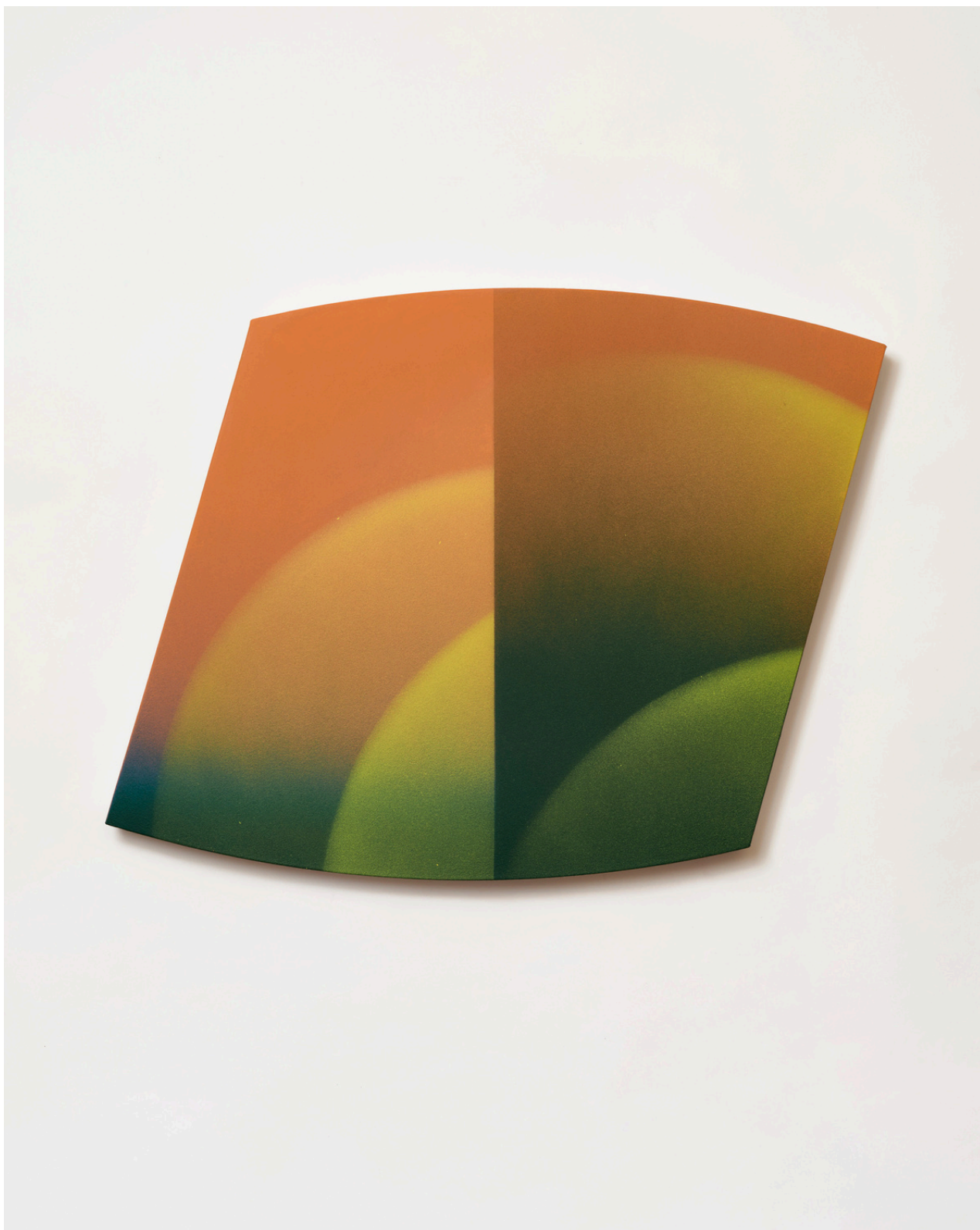
synthetic Polymer Paint on Canvas
53 x 84 cm (Dimensions Variable)

\$3,300



People and things; A wrinkle in time
2025
synthetic Polymer Paint on Polyester
55 x 67 cm (Dimensions Variable)

\$3,300



Mountain and water painting; Quiet leaves unbound and flying freely

2025

synthetic Polymer Paint on Polyester

55 x 67 cm (Dimensions Variable)

\$3,300



Jump starter; the putting green

2025

Synthetic Polymer Paint on Polyester

110 x 110 cm (Dimensions Variable)

\$7,200



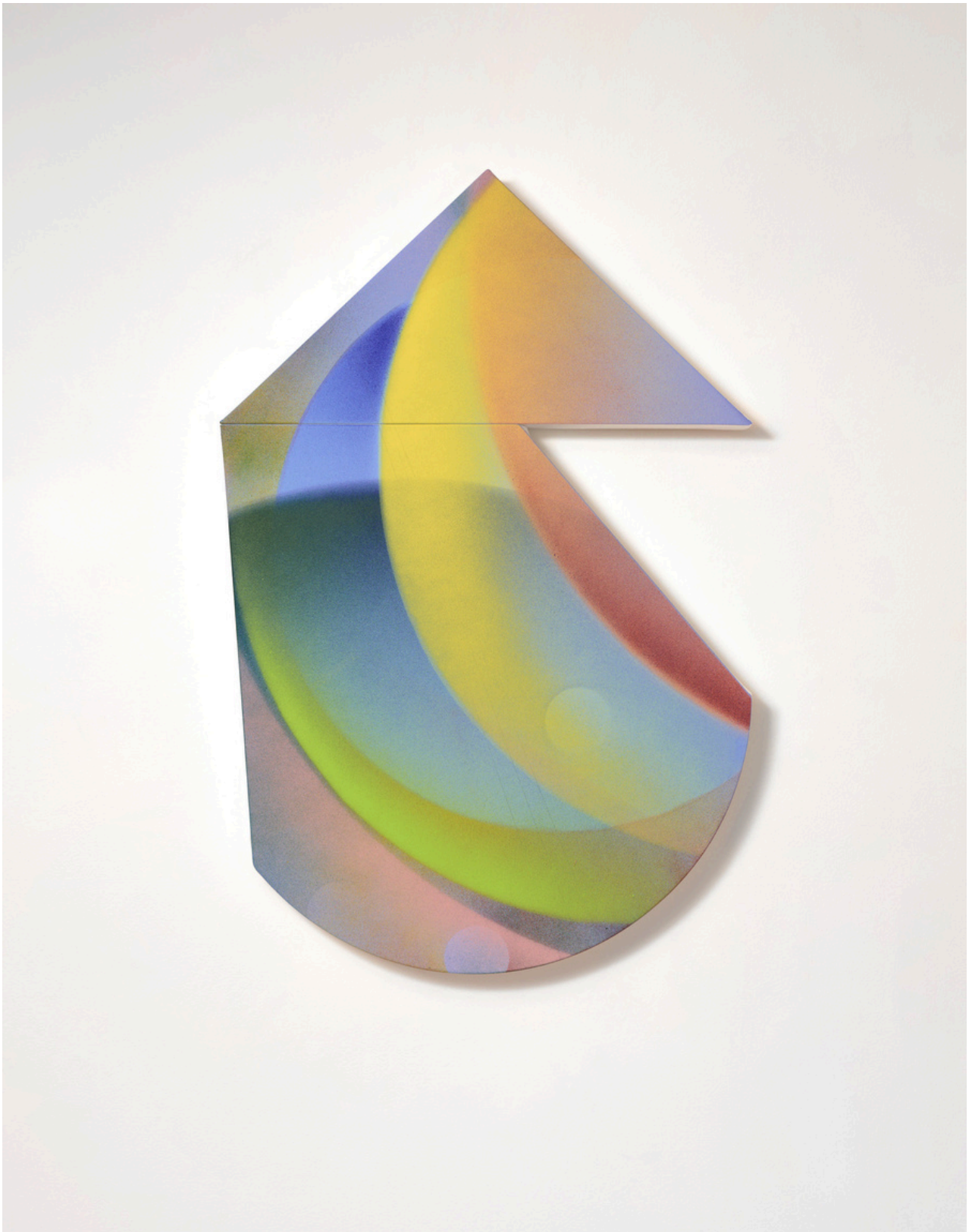
Big Axe for a leaf

2025

Synthetic Polymer Paint on Polyester

27 x 94 cm (Dimensions Variable)

\$3,300



Mountains and Water; A fish leaping

2025

synthetic Polymer Paint on Polyester 2 panels

80 x 53 cm (Dimensions Variable)

\$5,800

DANIEL HOLLIER

Biography

Daniel Hollier is a Sydney/Dharug & Gundungurra - based artist working across painting, drawing and sculpture.

Hollier's work draws on disparate influences from art history to natural sciences and philosophy. He is particularly attuned to fleeting moments and unnoticed fragments, believing they hold deeper meaning. These observations become starting points for abstraction, transforming the ordinary into something reimagined.

Using irregularly shaped canvases and a variety of painting processes, Hollier blurs the line between what is seen and what is interpreted. His work balances precision with unpredictability, capturing the interconnected nature of things. He invites viewers to tune in to the subtle language of the world, reframing the mundane as something meaningful and mysterious. Hollier teaches Drawing and Art Processes at the Sydney School of Architecture, Sydney University. His work is held in the Artbank collection as well as private collections in Australia, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands.

DANIEL HOLLIER



b. 1979, Canberra, Australia
Lives and works in Sydney

Education

2013–2016 Master of Fine Arts, Sydney College of the Arts, Sydney
2006–2009 Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours), National Art School, Sydney
2001–2002 Advanced Diploma of Graphic Design, Canberra Institute of Technology

Solo Exhibitions

2026 Bent Straight, Straight Bend, Five Walls Gallery, Melbourne
2025 Melbourne Art Fair, Jennings Kerr Gallery
2024 8 New Paintings, Armature for Water Divination, Jennings Kerr Gallery, NSW
2020 Picnic Mystic, Chalkhorse Gallery, Sydney
2016 Holding Down a Shadow, Sydney College of the Arts, Sydney
2015 Shoebox Pantomime, Alaska Projects, Sydney
2014 Echo Solar Series, Chalkhorse Gallery, Sydney
2013 Recordings, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney
2012 Shape Shifter, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney
2011 Native Ou Non, Sydney Non-Objective (SNO), Sydney
2010 Between the Imaginary and the Real, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney

Selected Group Exhibitions

2025 Something In the Trees, Jennings Kerr Gallery, Robertson, NSW; Future Universe, Velvet Lobster, Sydney
2024 Pulp, Jennings Kerr Gallery, NSW
2023 In Volume, Jennings Kerr Gallery, NSW; Round, Wollongong Art Gallery, NSW
2021 The Square, Five Walls Gallery, Melbourne
2019 The Square, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney; Dobell Prize for Drawing, National Art School, Sydney; Five, Mini Galerie, Amsterdam, Netherlands
2018 Rate of Change, COMA, Sydney; 140 SNO, Sydney
2017 New Contemporaries, Sydney College of the Arts; Darklands, Alaska Projects, Sydney
2016 Modes of Practice, Verge Gallery, Sydney; David Harold Tribe Sculpture Award, Sydney College of the Arts; Fiction (With Only Daylight Between Us), Boecker Contemporary, Heidelberg, Germany; The Future Will Be Different, Mini Galerie, Amsterdam, Netherlands; The Matter of Painting, MCA Artbar, Sydney (cur. Huseyin Sami); So Fresh, Wellington Street Projects, Sydney; Present Tense, Edwina Corlette Gallery, Brisbane

2015 Sweet Relief, Gallery 9, Sydney; Sydney Contemporary, Alaska Projects; Life/Death, Anna Pappas Gallery, Melbourne
2014 Television, Sarah Cottier Gallery, Sydney; Paint14, Arterial Gallery, Sydney; Night Swimming, Fontanelle, Adelaide
2013 Wonderworks, The Cat Street Gallery, Hong Kong
2012 As Above / So Below, MOP Projects, Sydney; Good Children Gallery, New Orleans, USA; You Give Good Colour, Sophie Gannon Gallery, Melbourne; Melbourne Art Fair, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney; Tribute to Triangle, Sydney Non-Objective, Sydney
2011 Helen Lempriere Travelling Art Scholarship (exh.), Artspace, Sydney; Origins, William Wright Artists Projects, Sydney
2010 Welcome, Fraser Studio Projects, Queen Street Studios, Sydney; Lesser Abstraction, MOP Projects, Sydney (cur. Daniel Hollier); Helen Lempriere Travelling Art Scholarship (exh.), Artspace, Sydney
2009 Big Thoughts, Fraser Studio Residency Exhibition; SNO 50, Sydney Non-Objective, Sydney
2008 Folk, SNO 46, Sydney Non-Objective, Sydney

Awards, Commissions and Grants

2024 Finalist, Fisher's Ghost Art Prize, Campbelltown Art Centre, NSW
2019 Finalist, Dobell Prize for Drawing, National Art School, Sydney; Multiplex QQT Tower, private commission, Sydney
2017 Roche Wall Drawing, private commission, Sydney
2013 Australia Post-Graduate Award, Sydney College of the Arts
2011 New Work Grant, Australia Council for the Arts; Finalist, Helen Lempriere Travelling Art Scholarship, Artspace, Sydney
2010 Storrier Onslow Cité de Paris Residency, Friends of the National Art School; Finalist, Helen Lempriere Travelling Art Scholarship
2009 Queen Street Studio Residency Award, Fraser Studio Projects
2008 Clitheroe Foundation Scholarship

Collections

Artbank, Australia
Private collections, Australia and United Kingdom