

BROADWAY

Sarah Cain

September 10 – October 16, 2021

Opening September 10th, 6-8pm

Broadway is pleased to present the gallery's first solo show by Los Angeles artist Sarah Cain. Comprising a major new work on site, a suite of works on paper with grounds of dollar bills and sheet music, and discrete canvas paintings. The exhibition serves as a concise encapsulation of an expansive and exuberant practice.

Rooted in abstraction but not bound by tradition, Cain augments a bold and kaleidoscopic palette with disarming array of found objects such as crystals, chains, sparkly sequined backpacks, bras and beads that adorn the paintings' surfaces. These materials enable complex optic shifts that toggle from image to object to form. Sofas and armchairs are enlisted as supports for exploratory sprays of color and point to a disruptive tradition of Feminist action and performance.

More intimately scaled are Cain's painterly interventions on found paper. The ongoing *\$talisman* series of paintings on US currency distill her deft use of color and mix blocky geometry and swooping line into potent compositions. Leaving tiny areas of bill untouched revealing a Freemason's pyramid or the partially obscured face of George Washington, Cain gives us a tightly-engraved, clue to the material's origin that stands in stark contrast to the chromatic, gestural hand of the artist. Similarly, the slightly larger works made on found sheet music play organic hand-painted forms against the rigid staff and text, and suggest a synesthetic confluence of color and sound.

Echoing her concurrent exhibitions at The National Gallery, Washington DC, and The Tang Teaching Museum, Saratoga, NY the installation in the rear gallery begins with a massive floor painting made in situ. Painted in a burst of spirited improvisation, the floor becomes both stage and actor. The transgressive allure of walking on a painting—exacerbated by the emblazoned furniture and a bold arrangement of large-scale wall-mounted paintings—creates an immersive and disarming event and emphasizes a mode abstraction that is truly experiential.

Sarah Cain's recent solo exhibitions include *Enter the Center* at The Tang Teaching Museum, Saratoga Springs, NY; *We Will Walk Right Up to The Sun* at the San Francisco International Airport; *My favorite season is the fall of the patriarchy* at the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC; and *Sarah Cain: In Nature* at The Momentary, Bentonville, Arkansas. The artist lives and works in Los Angeles.