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# *Constructed Truths*

Exhibition  
Catalogue

**Alexandra Flood /  
Andrew Morrow /  
Atticus Gordon**



**studio  
sixtysix**

celebrating  
10 years

May 19 — July 2, 2023

**Founded in 2013, we are a contemporary art gallery that represents a carefully selected group of acclaimed Canadian artists.**

Through our professional expertise, exemplary service, and hands-on curation we strive to build our artists' careers and our clients' collections.



#### Alexandra Flood

“My current work is an ongoing conversation around the unknown, decidedly spirited, with titles often suggesting the complex world we live in. I tip into the free-fall of abstraction in painting, producing compositions that nudge at our own physical world with brushstrokes that are generous and playful. As an image maker, my practice holds an awareness of the dizziness of this time we are in, how we got here, and the effect this state delivers to the human subconscious. I was willingly raised on a steady diet of American television and MTV before heading to art college, so as an accumulative result, my influences are often random threads between pop consumerism, film, and the pages of art history.”

— A. Flood

Alexandra is a graduate of OCAD University, and in addition, she studied painting at the National Academy School of Fine Arts in New York, and Turps Art School in London, England. She relocated to Ottawa after spending eight years in England, and before 2012 she was based in New Brunswick. Her work has been presented in solo and group shows across North America and Europe, and she has been recognized by national and international organizations with awards and honours for her work, including the Delphina Studios Trust, London, England, and the Canada Council for the Arts. Alexandra is a 4-time Longlist of the Sobey Award, and her work is in numerous collections across Canada and the UK.

### **Andrew Morrow**

Andrew Morrow is a contemporary Canadian painter whose work is characterized by a restless desire to both inhabit and extend Western historical figurative painting. His current practice exists at the intersection of relationality and art, motivated by a desire for connection and community, and grounded in principles of stewardship and accountability. In his work fragmented and archetypal figures populate shifting, uncertain landscapes, approaching, but never quite attaining the sublime. Reflecting an ongoing commitment to materially-based figurative painting, Morrow's practice includes small and large-scale drawings, paintings, and sometimes, installations.

Morrow is an award-winning, contemporary Canadian artist. He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Queen's University and a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Ottawa. Morrow's work has been widely exhibited and reviewed throughout Canada and abroad. In addition to his practice as an artist, Morrow is a professor in painting and drawing at the University of Ottawa, and a founding member of the Ottawa Arts Council Young Artist Award Committee. Morrow lives in Chelsea, QC, with his wife and two sons.

### **Atticus Gordon**

Gordon's practice revolves around the question of meaning-making in the painting medium, bending and pushing the codes of painting to explore new and exciting realms. With this in mind, he incorporates new technologies and extends the potential of painting into three dimensions. Working from collected images, archival imagery, and his own photographs, he creates new environments and narratives that reimagine history, space, and the contemporary experience. Gordon's works are constellations of ideas and images, fractured narratives where time and space collide. Out of this confluence, his work grapples with what it means to live now, how histories influence lived experiences and how imagination mediates our notions of past, present, and future. A digital influence runs through his works, tethering painting to new image-making practices.

Atticus Gordon is an emerging Ottawa-born and based artist working in painting and painting-based installation; he is currently pursuing an MFA at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Gordon has received the Ottawa Art Gallery Award of Excellence, the SAW Prize for New Work, and grants from the Ontario Arts Council and the City of Ottawa. His works have been exhibited in Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax and Berlin. Gordon's paintings are located in public collections of the city of Ottawa and Montreal. Gordon is also a curator, writer of art criticism, and co-founder of Nosy Mag, a non-profit publication examining Ottawa's art and culture.



Detail: *thesplit V*, Alexandra Flood





# *Constructed Truths*

## Alexandra Flood / Andrew Morrow / Atticus Gordon

May 19 — July 2, 2023

Alexandra Flood, Atticus Gordon, and Andrew Morrow share a love of painterly mark-making. Each uses emotive, thoughtful brushwork to build sophisticated visual truths for the digital era. Viewers of *Constructed Truths* are invited to reflect on questions the artists considered as they worked: what does a digital image *feel* like? What does it mean to pose for a portrait over Zoom? And, what happens when we put away our smartphones – and our reference points – and lose ourselves in the luxury of pure colour?

A “freefall into abstraction,” is how Alexandra Flood describes the process which generated her latest works. Flood’s new paintings are filled with mysterious, provocative shapes. The forms invite you to linger over the canvas; her use of colour is at once enchanting and defiant. Flood is intimately familiar with the digital universe; her response as a painter is to isolate the act of human brushwork. Flood’s abstract forms sometimes hint at muscular or industrial entities. Her titles deliberately invite as many questions as they answer. According to Flood, the new works reveal “the residue of human activity.” However, it is up to the viewer to decide whether that activity is a single wrist swiping paint across a surface or a collective effort to leave a human imprint on earth.

Atticus Gordon engages directly with digital culture, often beginning his compositional process with animation and ‘photobashing,’ a form of montage which eliminates the visible seams between different source images. Unlike an animator, however, Gordon creates digital images only at the start of his creative process. Gordon then moves to painting, where he seeks to reveal the ‘truth’ about the digital universe. His latest works reveal ideas sparked by his enrolment in the MFA program at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. References to both American art and Canadian modernism, as well as digital fantasies, appear in his landscapes. Gordon’s graduate training is a sequel to his studies at the University of Ottawa, where he counted Andrew Morrow among his mentors.

Andrew Morrow probes the collaborative spaces between figurative painters and their subjects. Morrow’s newest works reveal his vigorous re-engagement with full-colour oil paints after a long period of monochromatic drawings, gesso and acrylic work. Many of Morrow’s recent portrait sittings occurred while public health restrictions were in place, adding new spatial and psychological complexity to the painter-sitter relationship. Morrow found himself sketching and taking photos of some sitters outside, while other encounters took place over Zoom. On a psychological level, the connection between painter and sitter was profoundly changed by the enforced isolation of the pandemic; both digital and physical encounters had taken on new meanings for his sitters.

Morrow’s colourful, complex figurative works reveal traces of digital encounters even as they center the representation of human bodies. Flood and Gordon take different approaches to the challenge of creating paintings which they know will be experienced on Instagram and in the gallery. Seen on screen or in the flesh, these exquisite canvases by Alexandra Flood, Atticus Gordon, and Morrow celebrate the painterly vocabulary of brushwork today.

— Text written by Victoria Solan





*Delivery System IV*  
**Alexandra Flood**  
 Acrylic on canvas  
 30 x 24 in. / 76 x 61 cm  
 Unframed  
 2022

\$1,900



*Fireside*  
**Atticus Gordon**  
 Oil on canvas  
 16 x 20 in. / 41 x 51 cm  
 Unframed  
 2023

\$1,250





***Make It Weird***  
**Andrew Morrow**  
 Oil on panel  
 14 x 11 in. / 36 x 28 cm  
 Unframed  
 2023

\$1,875



***Don't Overthink It***  
**Andrew Morrow**  
 Oil on panel  
 14 x 11 in. / 36 x 28 cm  
 Unframed  
 2023

\$1,875





***Doubling Vision***

**Atticus Gordon**

Oil on panel

48 x 36 in. / 122 x 91 cm

Unframed

2022

\$1,900







*Little Smiley*  
**Atticus Gordon**  
 Oil on canvas  
 9 x 12 in. / 23 x 31 cm  
 Unframed  
 2023

\$750



*Alpha Decay VII*  
**Alexandra Flood**  
 Acrylic on canvas  
 30 x 24 in. / 76 x 61 cm  
 Unframed  
 2023

\$1,900





***It'll Be True Until It Isn't***  
**Andrew Morrow**  
 Oil on paper  
 7 x 5.5 in. / 18 x 14 cm  
 Unframed  
 2023

\$875



***Exactly What I Had in Mind***  
**Andrew Morrow**  
 Oil on paper  
 7 x 5.5 in. / 18 x 14 cm  
 Unframed  
 2023

\$875



*Landscape Aberration*

**Atticus Gordon**

Oil on canvas

9 x 12 in. / 23 x 31 cm

Unframed

2023

\$750



*thesplit V*

**Alexandra Flood**

Acrylic and india ink on canvas

30 x 24 in. / 76 x 61 cm

Unframed

2023

\$1,900





*Portrait Style, Standing, Front View*

**Andrew Morrow**

Oil on canvas

60 x 48 in. / 152 x 122 cm

Unframed

2023

\$8,100

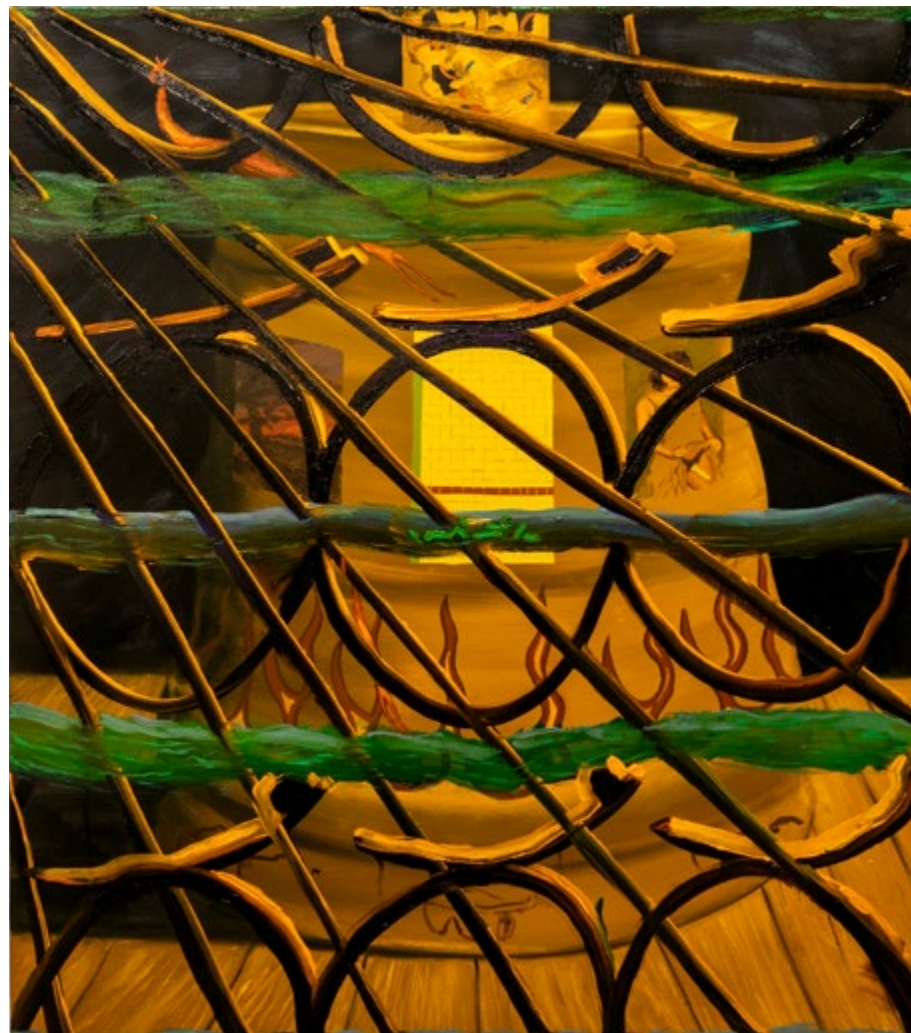






*Delivery System II*  
**Alexandra Flood**  
 Acrylic on canvas  
 24 x 18 in. / 61 x 46 cm  
 Custom framed  
 2023

\$1,725



*Obscured Data Container*  
**Atticus Gordon**  
 Oil on canvas  
 26 x 28 in. / 66 x 71 cm  
 Unframed  
 2023

\$1,900



*Prob, Maybe, Someday*

**Andrew Morrow**

Oil on panel

11 x 14 in. / 28 x 36 cm

Unframed

2023

\$1,875



*The Grove*

**Atticus Gordon**

Oil on canvas

24 x 28 in. / 61 x 71 cm

Unframed

2023

\$1,850





*Se La Vi*  
**Andrew Morrow**  
 Oil on panel  
 14 x 11 in. / 36 x 28 cm  
 Unframed  
 2023

\$1,875



*Pretty Girl*  
**Alexandra Flood**  
 Acrylic on canvas  
 30 x 24 in. / 76 x 61 cm  
 Unframed  
 2022

\$1,900





***Delivery System III***  
**Alexandra Flood**  
 Acrylic on canvas  
 28 x 22 in. / 71 x 56 cm  
 Unframed  
 2023

\$1,750



***Richard's Equation***  
**Alexandra Flood**  
 Acrylic on canvas  
 18 x 24 in. / 46 x 61 cm  
 Custom framed  
 2023

\$1,725



Constructed Ties  
Alexandra Flood  
Andrew Morrow  
Alicia Gordon

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858 Bank St.  
Suite 101  
Ottawa, ON  
K1S 3W3

[info@studiosixtysix.ca](mailto:info@studiosixtysix.ca)



**studio  
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celebrating  
10 years

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