



# ROBERTA GENTRY

*We have no need of other worlds. We need mirrors. We don't know what to do with other worlds.*  
-- Stanisław Lem

LADIES' ROOM is pleased to announce Roberta Gentry: *We Need Mirrors*, opening October 24, 2020 on [ladiesroomla.org](http://ladiesroomla.org). With a title derived from Stanisław Lem's 1961 sci-fi novel *Solaris*, the solo exhibition features the artist's recent "structure paintings," a series of alluring abstract compositions of crevices, grids, and portals. Gentry sees her works as "figures, structures, containers, and entrances. An opening cannot exist without an enclosure, and [these works] come from the tendency to create edges and boundaries where they didn't exist before. Like the human body, they are bilaterally symmetrical, and have an organizational relationship to the body that observes them."

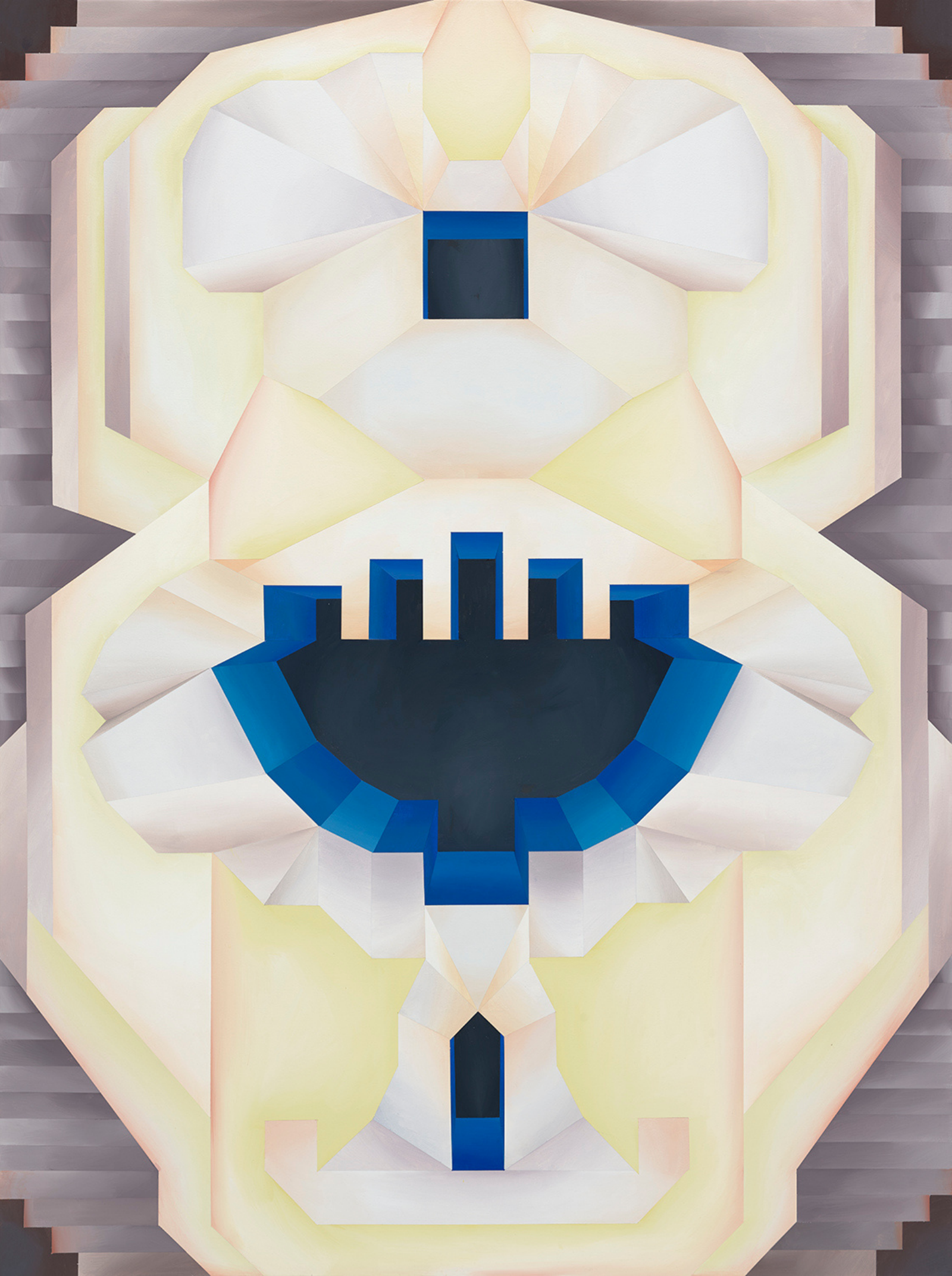
Roberta Gentry's visual lexicon is enigmatic yet familiar as the artist nimbly plays with anthropomorphism, history, and the unknown in her sumptuously mannered tableaux. Employing a rigorous approach to her work reminiscent of Agnes Martin's painting practice and philosophy, she seeks both order and humanity in her fastidious paintings, while also entering other dimensions. Having created her own geometric language in graduate school, Gentry's smooth surfaces are richly layered and her palette is soothing and evocative. Forms fluidly morph and seem to echo an anachronistic variety of sources -- art deco architecture, 80's album cover art, or projections from a utopian future.

Gentry's studio is neat. Paint tubes and bottles precisely arranged by color, brushes meticulously cleaned and organized, little Moleskin graph paper books arranged in perfectly gridded stacks. Viewers observe a sense of devotion that goes beyond the studio. She states, "I guide my work with rhythms: solid vs. empty, quiet vs. noise, light vs. dark. They are figurative but also mechanical, hard edged, and yet the segments are textured and soft. The paintings are built up slowly, thin skins of color layered piece by piece over the skeleton of a grid, until the figure emerges and separates itself. They are finished when there's nothing else needed, and a kind of satisfying balance has been achieved."

BIO: **ROBERTA GENTRY** (b. 1984, Safford, AZ) earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in 2-Dimensional Studies from the University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, and a Master of Fine Arts in painting from State University of New York, Albany, NY. She has had solo exhibitions at Elephant Art Space, Los Angeles, CA; Joyce Goldstein Gallery, Chatham, NY; and Terra Nova Gallery, Troy, NY. Recent group exhibitions include Los Angeles Mission College, Sylmar, CA; QiPO 01, QiPO Art Fair, Mexico City, MX; The Front, New Orleans, LA; Icosa Collective, Austin, TX; Durden and Ray, Los Angeles, CA; Brand Art Center, Glendale, CA; and Monte Vista Projects, Los Angeles, CA. Her work has been written about in the LA Times, Maake Magazine, Diversions LA, Fabrik Magazine, and Shoutout LA. Gentry lives and works in Los Angeles.

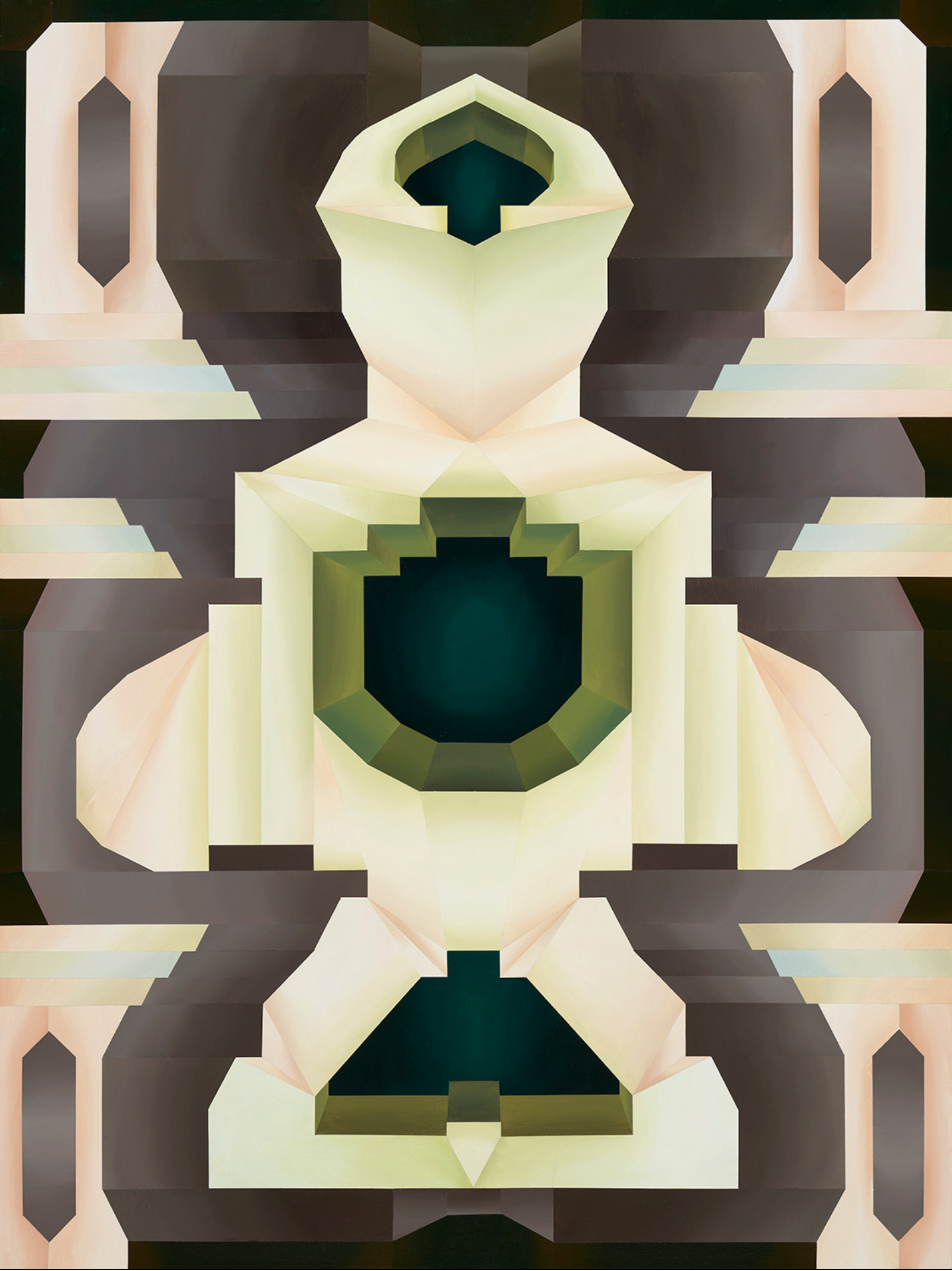
*Roberta Gentry: We Need Mirrors* is open BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.  
PLEASE CONTACT: [INFO@LADIESROOMLA.ORG](mailto:INFO@LADIESROOMLA.ORG) or TEXT: **310.447.8021** FOR APPOINTMENTS.

LADIES' ROOM is located in the historic Bendix Building, a nexus for artist studios, galleries, and performance spaces in downtown Los Angeles. We encourage you to [sign up on our mailing list](#) to receive updates on our programming, and follow us on [Instagram](#). For more information, please visit our [FAQ page](#).



*Bloom*, 2020  
48 x 36 inches  
Acrylic on canvas

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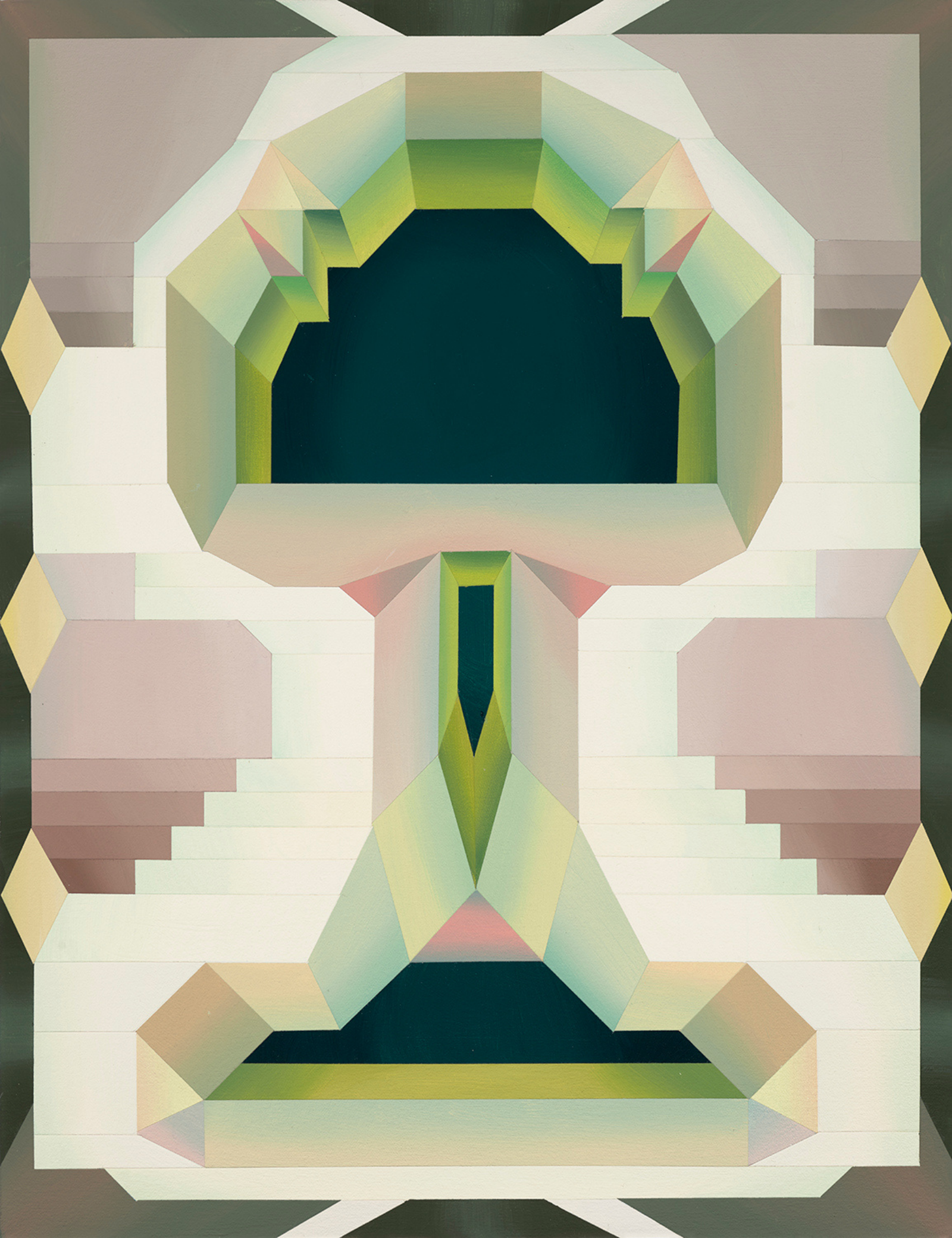


*Hold, 2020*  
48 x 36 inches  
Acrylic on canvas

LADIES' ROOM

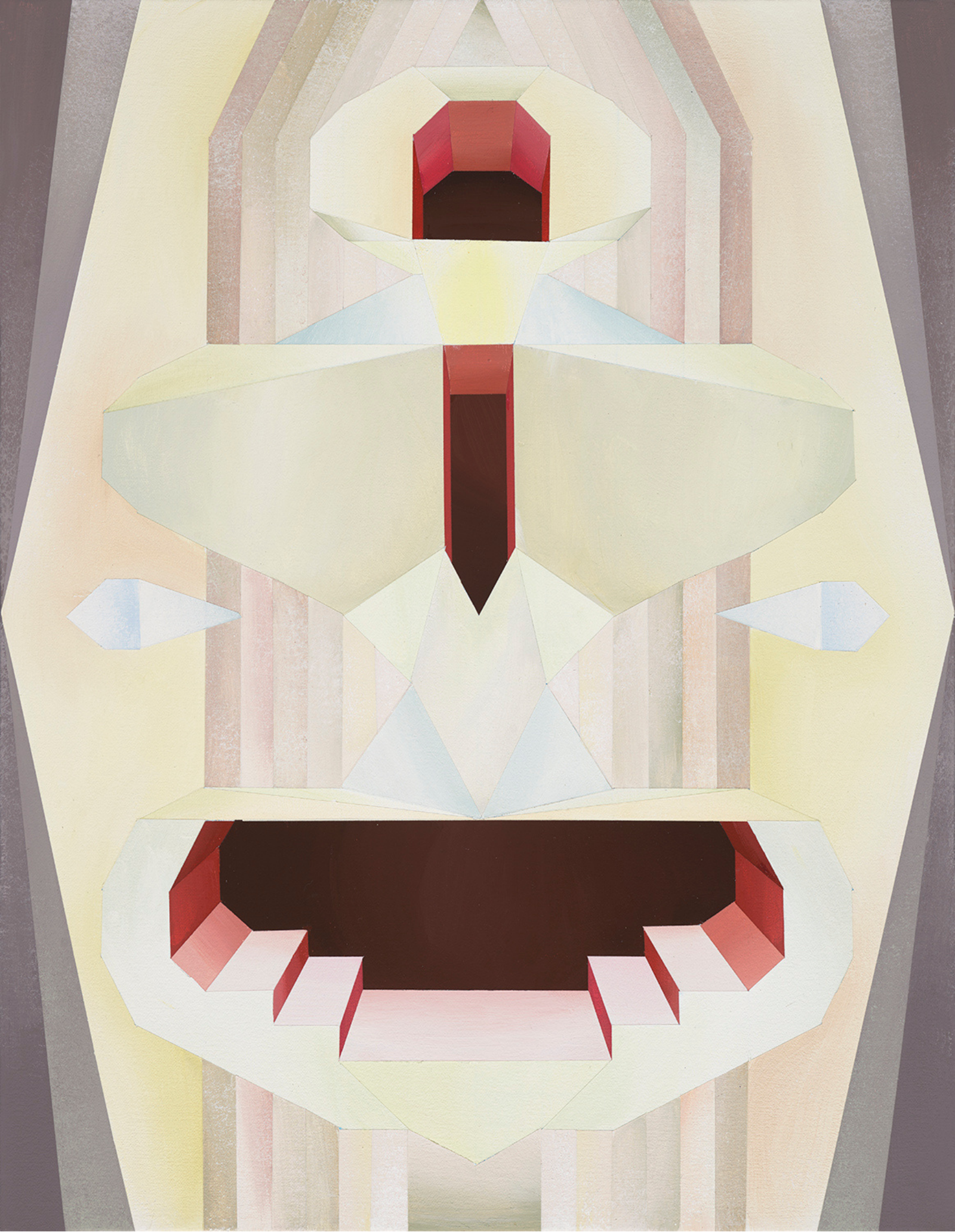


*Shadow*, 2020  
14 x 18 inches  
Acrylic on canvas

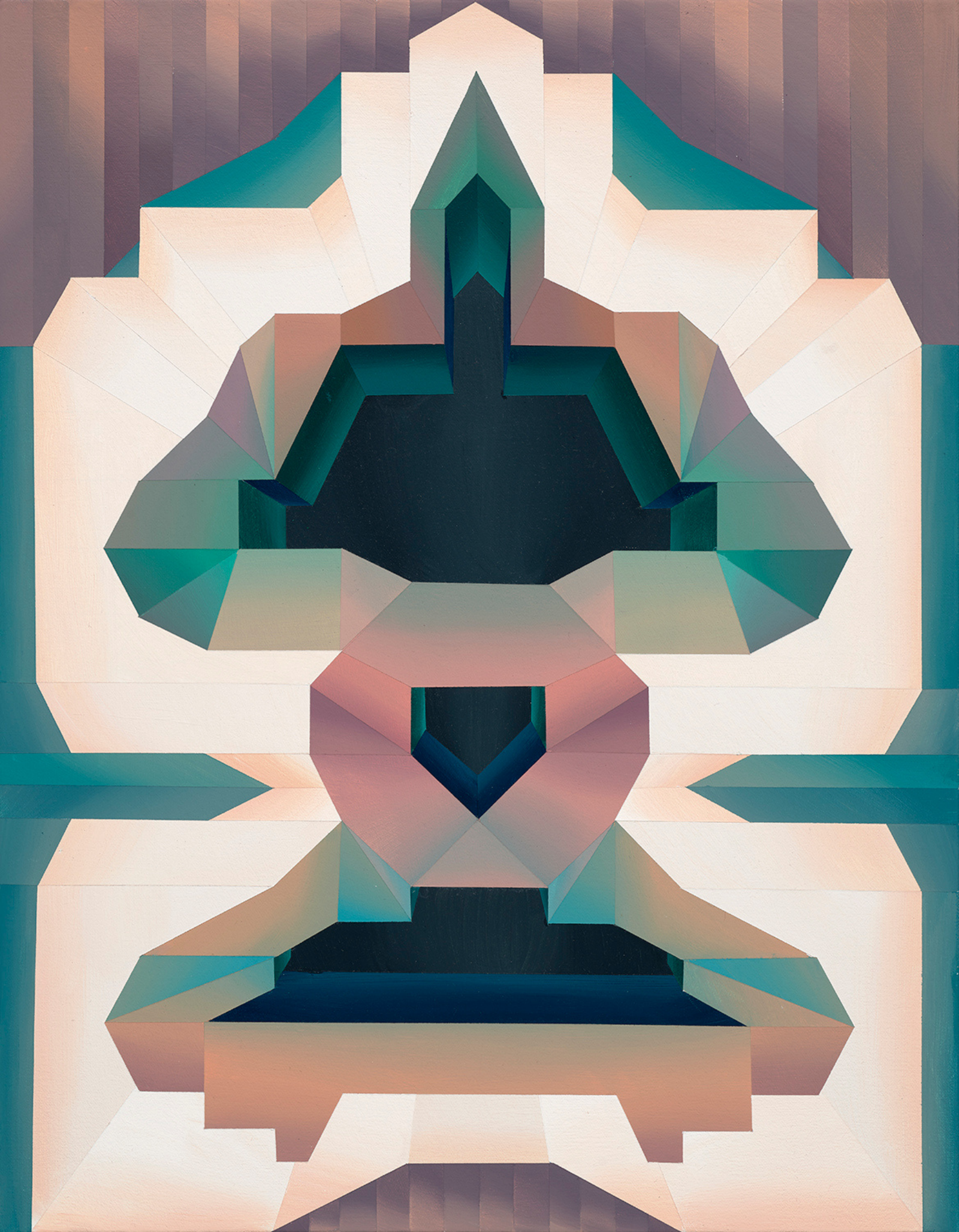


*Rise*, 2020  
14 x 18 inches  
Acrylic on canvas

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*Curtains, 2019*  
14 x 18 inches  
Acrylic on canvas



*Perch*, 2020  
14 x 18 inches  
Acrylic on canvas



*Pulls*, 2018  
14 x 18 inches  
Acrylic on canvas

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*Duck*, 2018  
14 x 18 inches  
Acrylic on canvas

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*Little Door 1*, 2020  
8 x 10 inches  
Acrylic on panel

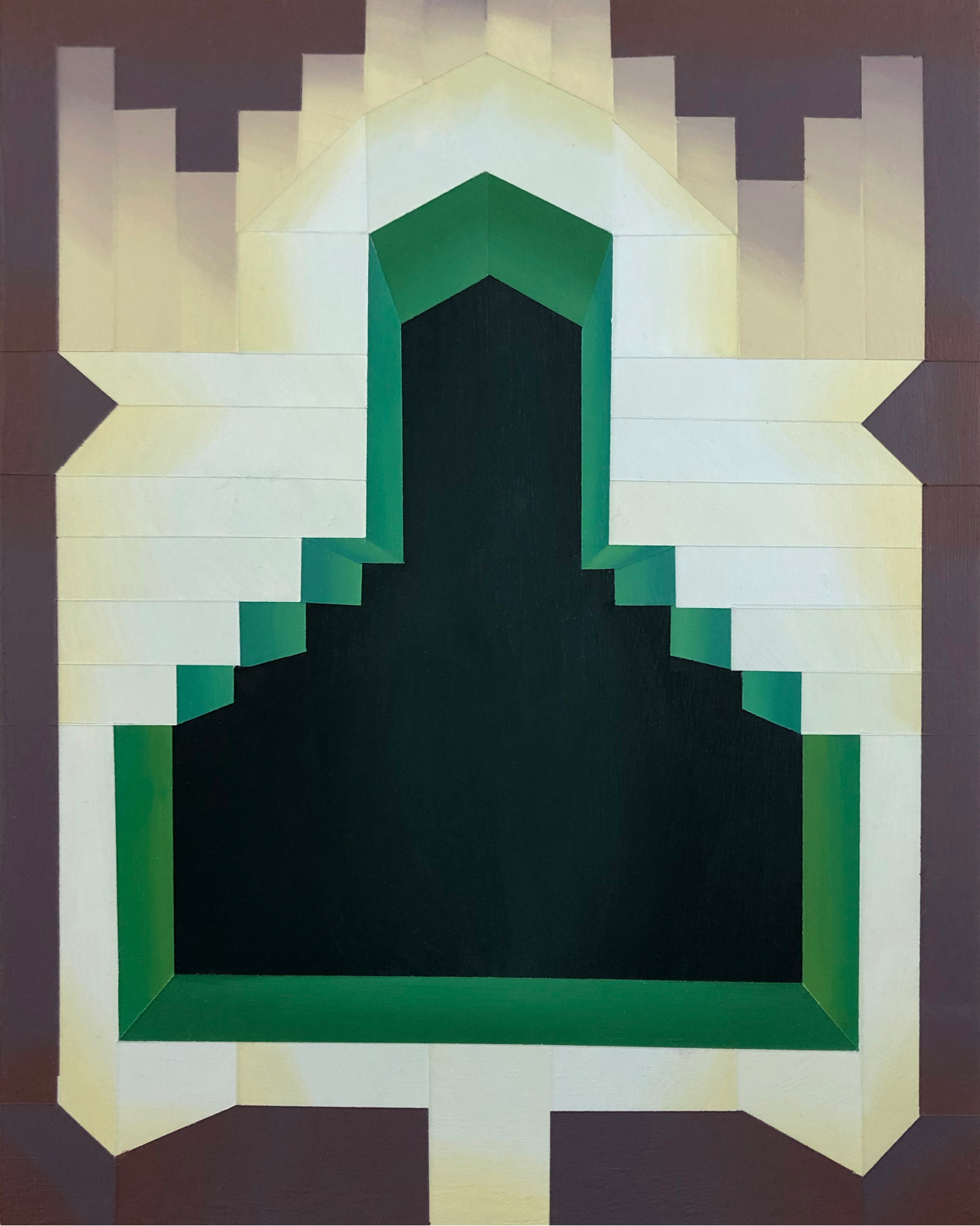


*Little Door 2, 2020*  
8 x 10 inches  
Acrylic on panel



*Little Door 3, 2020*  
8 x 10 inches  
Acrylic on panel

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*Little Door 4, 2020*  
8 x 10 inches  
Acrylic on panel



*Little Door 5, 2020*  
8 x 10 inches  
Acrylic on panel



*Little Door 6, 2020*  
8 x 10 inches  
Acrylic on panel

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# ROBERTA GENTRY

## EDUCATION

2014 Master of Fine Arts, Painting  
State University of New York, Albany, NY  
2007 Bachelor of Fine Arts, 2-Dimensional Studies  
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2018 *Ships*, Elephant Art Space, Los Angeles, CA  
2014 *Paintings*, Joyce Goldstein Gallery, Chatham, NY  
2013 *Information*, Terra Nova Gallery, Troy, NY  
2009 *Molting*, Stanica Cultural Center in Zilina, Slovakia  
2007 *Roberta Gentry*, Dinnerware Contemporary Arts Project Gallery, Tucson, AZ

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2019 *Call and Response*, Kronenboden, Berlin  
*QiPO 01*, QiPO, Mexico City  
*Majestic Proton Vest*, The Front, New Orleans, LA  
2017 *Tiger Strikes Austin*, Icosa Collective, Austin, TX  
*Simultaneous Contrast*, Durden and Ray, Los Angeles, CA  
*Small Things*, Monte Vista Projects, Los Angeles, CA  
*The Collectivists*, Brand Art Center, Glendale, CA  
*The Last Waltz*, Far Bazaar at Cerritos College, Norwalk, CA  
21(curated by Ben Sanders), Left Field Gallery, San Luis Obispo, CA  
2016 *The Garden*, Tiger Strikes Asteroid Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
*Running Away From Home*, 1748 Adams, Los Angeles, CA  
2015 *Intermittent Dialogues*, Monte Vista Projects, Los Angeles, CA  
2014 Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition, University Art Museum, Albany, NY  
*Playing with a Full Deck*, Greene County Council on the Arts Catskill Gallery, Catskill, NY  
2013 *Emerging Artists*, Lora Schlesinger Gallery, Santa Monica, CA  
2012 *Fissure*, Gallery ELL, Brooklyn, NY  
*Percolate*, Collarworks Gallery, Troy, NY  
*Best of SUNY*, SUNY Administration Building, Albany, NY  
2011 *MiniGrand*, Lulubell Gallery, Tucson, AZ  
2010 *Things of This Nature*, Red Room Gallery, Tucson, AZ  
5 x 5, Art exchange with Sendai City, Japan, Dinnerware Artspace, Tucson, AZ  
*Dinnerware's Grand Re-opening*, Dinnerware Artspace, Tucson, AZ  
*Almost True*, Lulubell Gallery, Tucson, AZ  
2009 *Magic Words*, Stanica Cultural Center, Zilina, Slovakia  
*The Sound of Paint II*, group performance, Rocket Gallery, Tucson, AZ  
*Playtime*, Lulubell Gallery, Tucson, AZ  
2008 *The Sound of Paint*, group performance at the Arts Incubator, Tucson, AZ  
*Write and React*, Arts Incubator, Tucson, AZ  
*Night of a Thousand Drawings*, Dinnerware Artspace, Tucson, AZ  
BFA Show, Lionel Rombach Gallery, Tucson, AZ  
2007 *LeLegacy Viroid*, Shane House Gallery, Tucson AZ  
*Spring Art Auction Invitational*, Dinnerware Contemporary Arts, Tucson AZ  
*Installation for Madama Butterfly*, 2-person exhibition, Tucson Music Hall, Tucson, AZ  
2006 *27th Annual Art Auction Invitational*, Dinnerware Contemporary Arts, Tucson, AZ

## RESIDENCIES AND AWARDS

2016-17 Teaching Artist Fellowship, Armory Center for the Arts  
2014 University at Albany's Distinguished Master of Fine Arts Project Award  
College Art Association Career Development Fellowship  
2011-14 University at Albany Graduate Teaching Assistantship  
2009 Artist in Residence, Stanica Cultural Center, Zilina, Slovakia (March-May)  
United States Embassy of Slovakia, Travel Grant  
2007 University Of Arizona's Study Abroad Travel Grant  
Fine Arts Resident Achievement Tuition Award  
Bill & Jane Spain Scholarship  
2005 Bill & Jane Spain Scholarship

## VISITING ARTIST LECTURES

2014 Lecture and undergraduate critique, Pomona College, Claremont, CA, October 2  
2014 Lecture and undergraduate critique, Sage College, Albany NY, September 17

## CURATORIAL PROJECTS

2015- Member, Monte Vista Projects, Los Angeles (artist-run space in Downtown Los Angeles, organizes present exhibitions, lectures, events, and performances.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

"Meet Roberta Gentry," Voyage LA Magazine, July 3,  
2018 <http://voyagela.com/interview/meet-roberta-gentry-na-los-angeles/>  
Lawrence Gipe, "Fresh Faces in Art: Roberta Gentry," Fabrik Magazine (print and online), Issue 38, January 22,  
2018 <http://thisisfabrik.com/roberta-gentry/>  
DiversionsLA, "Durden and Ray Collaborate," July 31,  
2017 <http://diversionsla.com/durden-and-ray-collaborate/>  
Kelly Corrigan, "6 collectives to curate, exhibit contemporary art," LA Times, January 13,  
2017, <http://www.latimes.com/socal/glendale-news-press/entertainment/tn-gnp-me-collectivists-20170113-story.html>  
Maake Magazine (print and blog), Summer 2015  
Issue, <http://www.maakemagazine.com/roberta-gentry>  
"Transforming Written Language Into a Physical Reality," Arts and Sciences Today, Spring 2014  
Issue, [http://www.albany.edu/cas\\_enews/49247.php](http://www.albany.edu/cas_enews/49247.php)  
Molly McClintock, "Roberta Gentry, Painter," Fab Oversight (blog), June 12,  
2014, <https://faboversight.wordpress.com/2014/06/12/roberta-gentry-painter/>

# LADIES' ROOM

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