

Omar Chacón

Artist Statement

Painting started for me with as a quixotic notion, whose act of making and history has always been of great intrigue to me. My research and interest in the structure of painting throughout time enables me to break down the components of the act, allowing for a physical separation of the material from the canvas in my process. I pour paint, letting it dry into units that become the building blocks or brushstrokes that then migrate onto the canvas. Following my thinking about the physicality of painting, color and its placement are also guiding factors in my work, from intuitive to orchestrated harmonies. Even in the isolation of these elements I make a conscious effort to return to the confines of the canvas as a way to continue my dialogue with art history, Greenbergian theory and the artists that have built upon its meaning.

While the conceptual matters of my work developed in art school the aesthetic quality of it is principally derived from seven small paintings my untrained grandfather made in his life. These personal works are what essentially made abstraction relevant in my practice. The intersection of my schooling and familial intimacy that occurred early in my career as an artist is what I yearn to communicate in greater terms, the synthesis of cultures, the old and the new. Born in Bogotá Colombia I intertwine my unique Latin heritage with the discourses found from classical antiquity to modernism. I liken my works to a social gathering, a global nation comprised of a diverse blend of culturally different peoples, living amongst each other with a sense of unity, yet maintaining individuality, each unit each drip is unique. Though greatly absorbed with art historical reference, at its core my work deals with subjects that shine from my heart, baroque in thought, fruitful in being and orgiastic in beauty.