

VAN DOREN WAXTER

Van Doren Waxter and CHART to present

Jackie Saccoccio: *Femme Brut*
Van Doren Waxter, January 22 – March 14, 2020
Chart, January 22 – March 21, 2020



La Source de la Loue, 2019, Oil, oil pastel, and mica on linen, 114 x 94 inches (289.6 x 238.8 cm)

Van Doren Waxter and CHART, are pleased to announce Jackie Saccoccio: *Femme Brut*, a two-venue exhibition of the American artist's paintings, drawings, and prints to go on view at 23 East 73rd Street and 74 Franklin Street, respectively, from January 22, 2020, with the uptown presentation through March 14 and the downtown presentation through March 21. Saccoccio is admired for her radiant abstractions and an expanding use of the canvas as a painting tool. Her adventurous body-aware practice and formal concerns align her with contemporary painters recognized for pushing the medium. A recipient of an American Academy in Rome Prize and a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship, Saccoccio has exhibited continuously since her White Columns White Room debut in 2001.

An allusion to Jean Dubuffet's "Art Brut," his definition for raw, emotional work made outside of the academy, Saccoccio's expansive, physical, and unapologetic *Femme Brut* is, for what the artist states as "abstraction at full throttle." The works to go on view are characterized by a muscular urgency and evidence formal interests in space and scale. The unabashed bravado of the newest canvasses recall artist and art critic Thomas Micchelli's comment that while Saccoccio's work contains "echoes of Joan Mitchell and Helen Frankenthaler," it is her "exploitation of every conceivable mode of applying paint" that "grounds the work in pure painting and distinguishes it as a post-painting phenomenon."

Her most recent canvasses, all 2019, are characterized by globules, spheres, washes, and fictitious architecture, which she likens to the "explosive nature of a tempest," a reference to Shakespeare's tragedy that deals with storms, sorcery, and enchantment, such as a pair of epically scaled, highly activated oil and oil pastel on linen paintings measuring 130 x 94 inches. Another work, *La Source de la Loue*, an oil, oil pastel, and mica on linen

measuring 114 x 94 inches, returns to a seminal historical painting for the artist—a ca. 1864 production by the French artist Gustave Courbet of the same title. Saccoccio’s canvas is a buoyant palette to his somber, foreboding tones; she powerfully echoes his cavernous space absent of a horizon line and conveys, terrifyingly, both volume and vacuum. The artist’s monotype paintings also ruminate on this solidity, transparency, and metaphor. The more than six-foot-tall oil and mica on linen *Le Puits Noir (Concave)*’s layered passages of red, citrus orange, and bone, are like that of a tempest, at once warped and non-sensical and what Saccoccio describes as “a stage for a floating chrysalis.”

The artist draws inspiration from art history, contemporary practice, literature, and cinema and is known for an affecting body of chromatic large-scale, body-aware paintings, working in a mode that favors chance, gravity, time and control. She tips, drags, and shakes her paintings over one another, accumulating webs of space, manipulating them as prints, so that one serves as plate, the other as paper. The resulting orbicular centers reflect a conversation between the layers that include atomized color, painted and drawn, perspectival views of pixelation, printmaking, and the results of her alchemical combinations.

The exhibition is accompanied by a fully illustrated exhibition catalogue with a new essay by Brooklyn-based editor and art critic Julia Wolkoff Fiore.

About the artist:

Jackie Saccoccio was born in Providence, Rhode Island in 1963 and today lives and works in Connecticut and New York City. She earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting at Rhode Island School of Design in 1985 and her Master of Fine Arts in Painting at School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1988. Saccoccio is the recipient of prestigious awards and grants, including The Rome Prize at the American Academy in Rome; a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship; a Fulbright grant; an Art Production Fund/Monet Foundation Giverny residency; an Artadia NADA Award; and a Civitella Ranieri Fellowship. Her work is held in collections that include Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA; Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art, RI; Rose Art Museum, MA; Nerman Museum, KS; MOCA Jacksonville, FL; and Addison Gallery of American Art, MA. She has exhibited nationally and abroad for the last two decades. Her solo exhibitions include *The Club*, Tokyo, Japan (2018); a two-venue show at 11R, NY and Van Doren Waxter, NY (2015); *Corbett vs. Dempsey*, Chicago, IL (2015); *Museo d’ Arte Contemporanea di Villa Croce*, Genoa (2014), *Brand New Gallery*, Milan (2014); and *Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art*, Overland Park, KS (2013). Her work has been reviewed in *Artforum*, *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, and *New York*, among others.

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