

VAN DOREN WAXTER

Portraits

Jackie Saccoccio

March 12 – April 24, 2026



Jackie Saccoccio, *Portrait (Blue Poles)*, 2017, Oil and mica on linen, 79 x 90 in (200.7 x 228.6 cm) (JSA 351)

Van Doren Waxter is pleased to exhibit *Portraits*, a show of works by the late American painter, Jackie Saccoccio. Showcasing five paintings, including two monumental works titled “Portraits,” as well as seven works on paper, *Portraits* presents Saccoccio’s mature works.

Saccoccio’s fluid and immersive abstract paintings reach their final state through unpredictable situations imposed by the artist— paintings get dragged across one another or pressed against each other while the paint is wet and tacky. Saccoccio responds to the serendipitous dribbles and drag marks, weaving the entire image into what feels like a cosmic scenery. Abundant with manual labor, her improvisational structure works in favor of an artist who was not afraid to control the material as much as to be confounded by it.

Though one could intuit that these paintings mirror internal worlds, the distinctly figurative title, *Portrait*, came after a revelatory trip to Rome. Having long been inspired by Roman Baroque paintings and architecture, when faced with a larger-than-life statue of Pope Innocent X made in the 1640s by Alessandro Algardi at the Capitoline Museum, Saccoccio was astounded by the immersive force of the monument. Within its immense scale, the sculpture contained multitudes of intricate details that captured light and shadow. Saccoccio’s mark-making reflects the desire for such multiplicity— rattling the deep pools of chemical and electric color underneath. The subject of Algardi’s sculpture is a distant reference, similar to Saccoccio’s amorphous field of color. Without explicit historical attributions, but through their sheer scale and depth, Saccoccio’s paintings push the viewers to look inwards to themselves, returning to the figure, the person, from abstraction.

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About the artist

Jackie Saccoccio (b. 1963 - d. 2020) was an American abstract painter who lived and worked in CT and NY. She was educated at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (MFA) and Rhode Island School of Design (BFA). Saccoccio was the recipient of numerous awards and grants, including The Rome Prize at the American Academy in Rome; Guggenheim Grant; Fulbright Grant; Art Production Fund / Monet Foundation Giverny residency; Artadia NADA Award; and a Civitella Ranieri Fellowship. She exhibited nationally and internationally for 30 years. Her solo exhibitions included The Club, Tokyo, Japan (2020, 2018); a 2-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; and Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS (2013). Group exhibitions included Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; Victoria Miro Gallery, London; Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, KS; Addison Museum of American Art, MA; RISD Museum of Art, Providence, RI and The Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA. Saccoccio's exhibitions were reviewed in *The New York Times*, *New York Magazine*, *The New Yorker*, and *Artforum*, among others. Museum collections include Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY; Rose Art Museum, MA; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL; Nerman Museum, KS; MOCA Jacksonville, FL; and Addison Gallery of American Art, MA.