

# ELLIOTT GREEN



## *IMAGINARY LANDSCAPES*

20 December 2023 – 9 February 2024

(New Orleans, LA) **FERRARA SHOWMAN GALLERY** is proud to present *Imaginary Landscapes*, the second solo exhibition of Hudson Valley-based artist Elliott Green. The exhibition unveils fifteen new oil paintings on linen in the artist's characteristic, gestural technique and visual sensibilities. Green's work was first debuted at the gallery in 2018, when three paintings of his appeared in the group exhibition *Oscillation* - curated by Dan Cameron - as an official satellite exhibition during Prospect.4 New Orleans. In this six-year span, the artist has received considerable success through gallery exhibitions, reviews, art fair presentations, residencies, fellowships, grants, and the publication of a monograph. So too the viewer may note, in this latest exhibition, the growth and expansion of Green's oeuvre through his continued exploration and innovation of his creative practice and vision.

Green expounds on the latest suite of paintings . . .

*My paintings bridge the genres of abstraction and landscape. They hold abstract improvisations arranged in a staged environment. By abstraction, I mean shapes and colors and gestures in a configuration that intuitively cause an emotional resonance.*

*The landscape format I use is imaginary. It suggests a familiar atmosphere in the simplest way. Color at the top of the canvas blends from darker to lighter and sets the scene, so that abstract elements within that space seem plausible. It welcomes the mind to another realm, like the place of dreams, where meaning and metaphor speak to a deeper part of the self.*

*My paintings are always unplanned and feel to me like they come out of nowhere, but the evidence in a long trail of work suggests that they emerge from a full range of life experiences. Lately it feels like they absorb moods from out of thin air, like seasonal colors, the weather, and news of world events that seep into the scenery.*

*These new paintings at the Ferrara Showman Gallery aspire to be even more ethereal than the ones shown here in 2018. Especially on the larger canvasses, where distant horizons extend further, and a viewer can feel like they are being lifted in flight over abundant vistas.*

*In the zones where the heavens and earth converge, there is an active mingling of energies. Waveforms radiate upward. Mountain peaks reach up higher, and veils of fog drop like heavy curtains.*

*Some areas of colorful activity flow like molten glass and light pulses through them in feathery segments.*

*This is how my work was described in the program for the 2021 ceremonial at the American Academy of Arts and Letters:*

*"His euphoric paintings are all light and space one moment and paint and canvas the next. The fascinating conversation between abstraction and landscape is a mystery that the viewer can't unravel. The paintings evoke the heroic by attempting the impossible. Belief and doubt duke it out, and our disappointment is replaced by exaltations."*

*My intention as an artist has always been to animate inert materials into a spirited energy that can be seen and felt by receptive viewers. The description above is reassuring for me to know that the deep connection I hope for is actively happening.*

**Elliott Green** was born in Detroit, Michigan, in 1960. He moved to New York City in 1981 and lived there for twenty-four years. In 2005 he moved to Athens, New York, a small town situated between the Catskill Mountains and the Hudson River, where he continues to work and live. He has received a John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, two Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grants, the Rome Prize, and three prizes and awards from the Academy of Arts and Letters, along with numerous residency grants. A book of his paintings, *Elliott Green: At the Far Edge of the Known World*, with essays by six writers, was published in late 2019.

The exhibition will be on view from 20 December 2023 through 9 February 2024 with an opening reception on **Saturday 6 January** coinciding with the Arts District of New Orleans' (ADNO) monthly *First Saturday Gallery Openings* from **5 - 9 PM**.

**For more information, press or sales inquiries please contact Gallery Director Matthew Weldon Showman at 504.343.6827 or [matthew@ferrarashowman.com](mailto:matthew@ferrarashowman.com). Please join the conversation with FSG on Facebook (@FerraraShowmanGallery), Twitter (@FerraraShowman), and Instagram (@JonathanFerraraGallery) via the hashtags: #ElliottGreen, #FerraraShowmanGallery, and #ArtsDistrictNewOrleans.**