Patrick Brennan, MFA candidate, Cornell University, 2020

A Thesis
Presented to the Faculty of the Graduate School
Of Cornell University
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the degree of
Master of Fine Arts

By
Patrick Brennan
May 2020

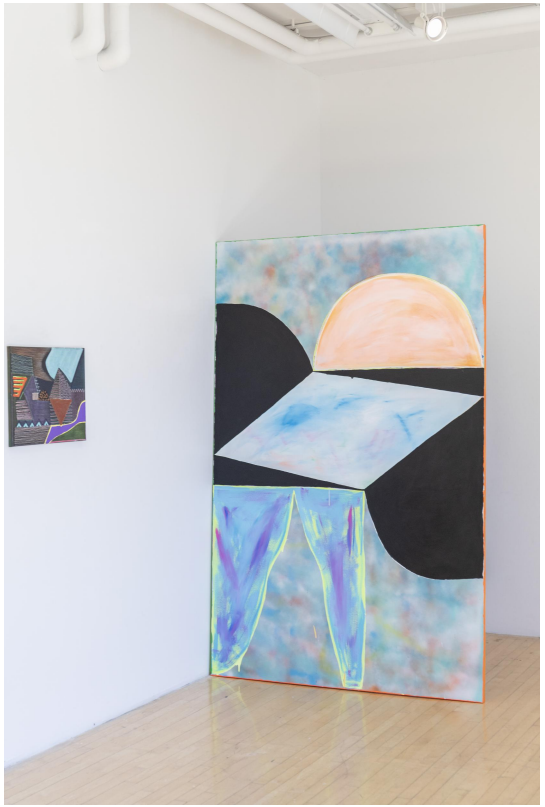
Patrick Brennan / Burning Down the House
Experimental Gallery / Tjaden Hall
Cornell University / Ithaca NY
October 6 - 12 / opening October 10, 5-7pm

This immersive site-specific installation fills Tjaden’s Experimental Gallery with paintings, sculptures and video, creating an open labyrinth. Works are strategically placed throughout the gallery to encourage the viewers’ imaginations, and make clear that the artist genuinely does not care how far over the top any one piece goes. The self-supporting layout doesn’t appear to add up as a whole; rather, it reads as pockets or portals crammed with visual buzz. The various pieces are teeming with collage and layered paint, which gesture to the potential infinities of information lying just beneath the surface of everything, and if that chaos rattles the nerves, well, that’s life.

Soon Enough, 2019, 46” x 36”

Burning Down the House (sculpture), 2019, 58”x 67”x 49”

Install - Burning Down the House, 2019



Install - Burning Down the House, 2019

Install - Burning Down the House, 2019

Install - Burning Down the House, 2019

Burning Down the House (painting), 2019, 42” x 36”

Darker Everyday, 2019, 18”x 24”

Voyage of Life, 2019, 96” x 52”

Soon Enough, 2019, 46” x 36”

Egypt, 2019, 14”X 11”

Part, 2019,12”x 12”

Stack, 2019, 46”x 36”

The Seeker, 2019, 62”x 72”

A Liar's Tale,2019, 72”x 113”

Patrick Brennan

Roll With It...

March 11 -15 2019

Tjaden Gallery

Cornell University

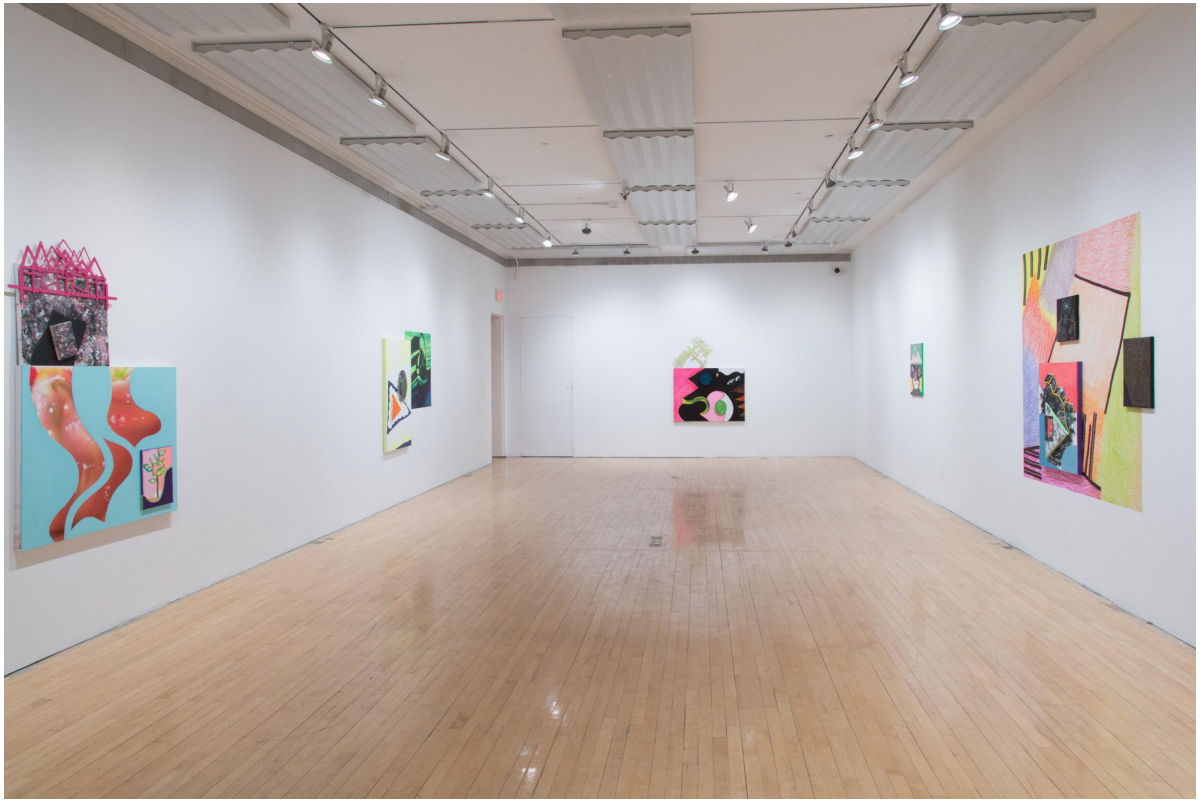
Ithaca New York

Cornell MFA Exhibition

Roll With It… combines painting and assemblage. A first look doesn't necessarily reveal subtle highlights amid an explosion of angular shapes and color. The afterglow of impression only appears, unbidden, after walking away. I use, by any means necessary, materials like acrylic paint, spray paint, foam, popsicle sticks, ink, mylar, colored pencils, wood, silk and glitter.

Color in these paintings acts as a way to draw the viewer in. It's like advertising and why, when you walk down a grocery aisle, everything is pink and purple and bright and screaming at you. For me, idea of using bright colors and contrasting them with black and white is a way to entice someone. The materiality is what keeps you there, lingering and investigating longer - why is there silk? Or popsicle sticks? Why does the paint have a consistency like the hardware store and craft paint? I want the paintings to have a DIY feel, like they are wild and messy, encased in an awareness and history.

Install, Roll With it… , 2020, Tjaden Gallery



Install, Roll With it… , 2020, Tjaden Gallery

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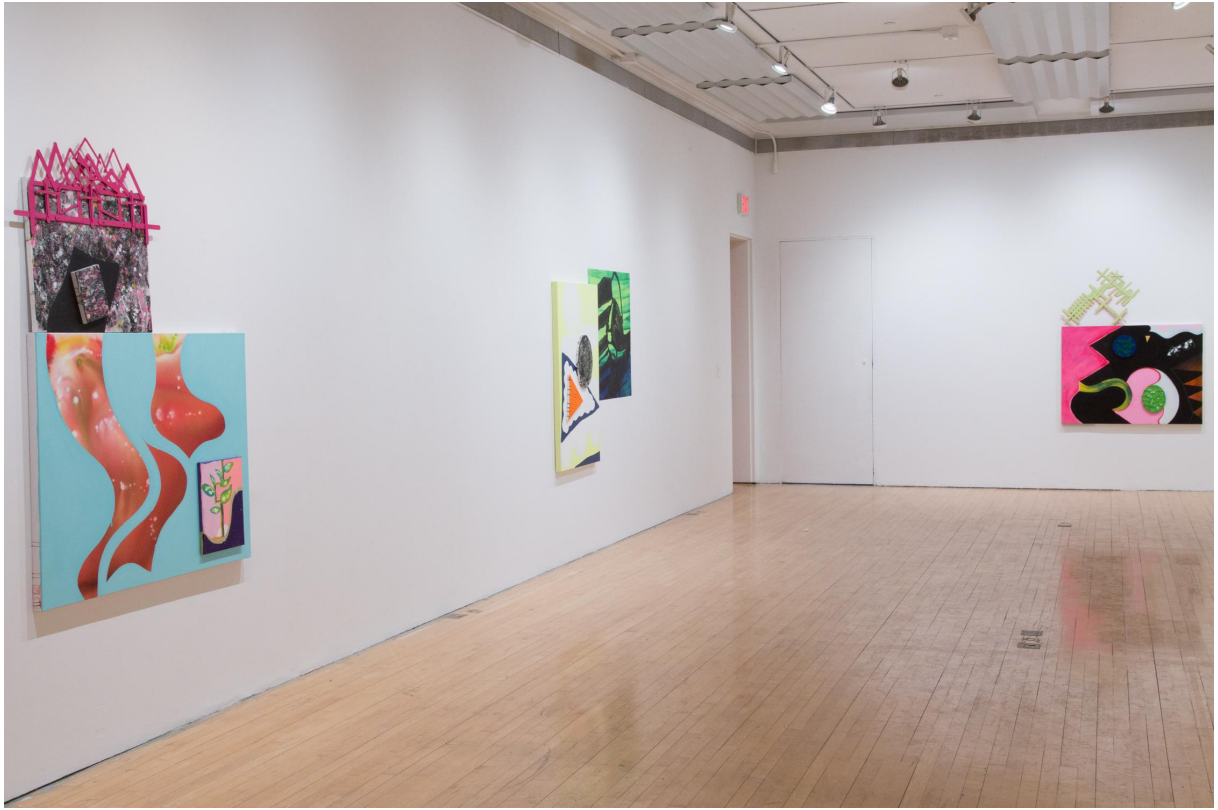
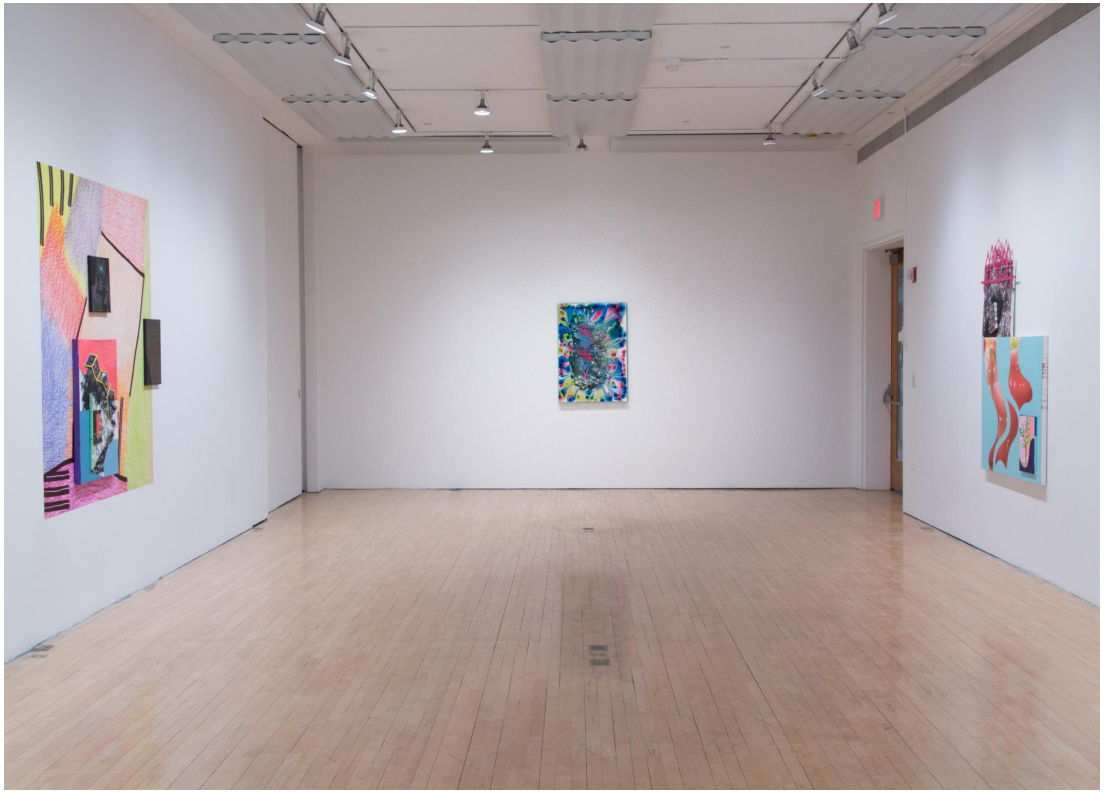


Install, Roll With it… , 2020, Tjaden Gallery



Robert Altman Painting, 2019, 42”x 34”

Shelter, 2019, 72” x 78

Start to Finish, 2019, 52” x 48”

Darker Everyday, 2019, 52” x 48”

Digger, 2019, 24” x 20”

Dancer, 2019, 46”x 68”

5.10.19 - 5.17.19

OPENING
MAY 10TH
6-9PM

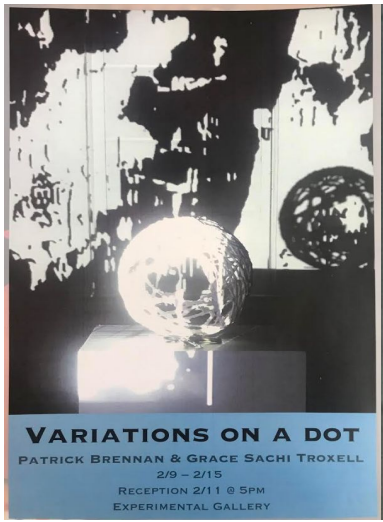
SAFE
GALLERY

OR HIGH WATER

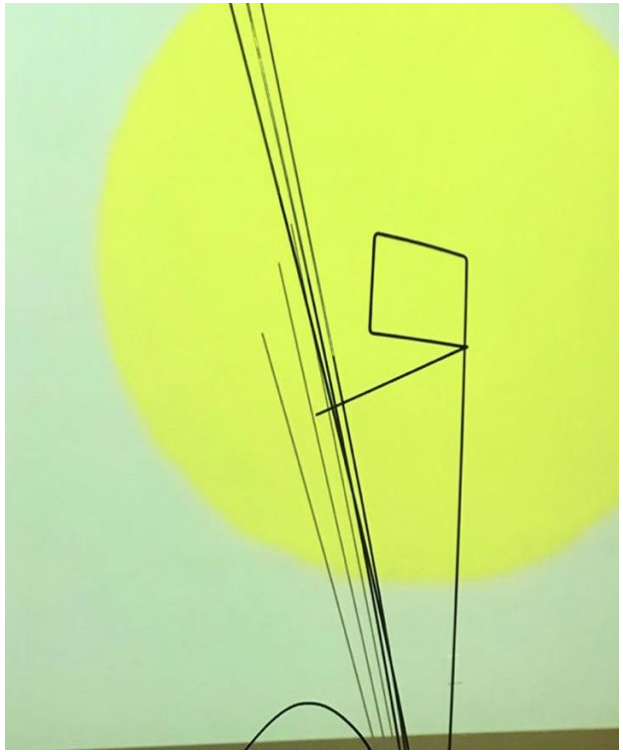
CORNELL UNIVERSITY M.F.A. 2019 EXHIBITION

Punch the Sky, 2019, 33”x 24”

Darker Everyday, 2019, 52” x 87” (diptych)


VARIATIONS ON A DOT
PATRICK BRENNAN & GRACE SACHI TROXELL
2/9 – 2/15
RECEPTION 2/11 @ 5PM
EXPERIMENTAL GALLERY

Variations on a Dot, 2020 (with Grace Troxell), Experimental Gallery



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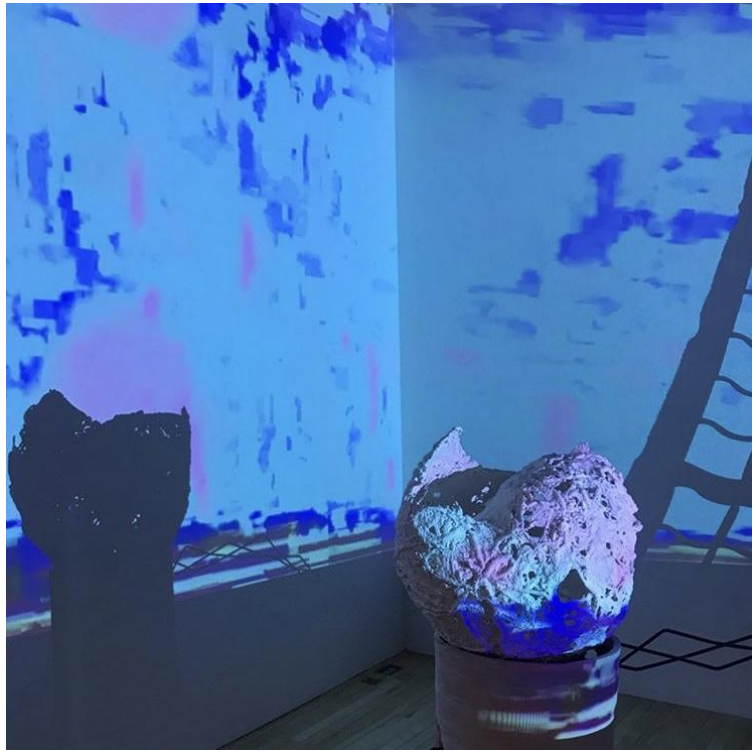

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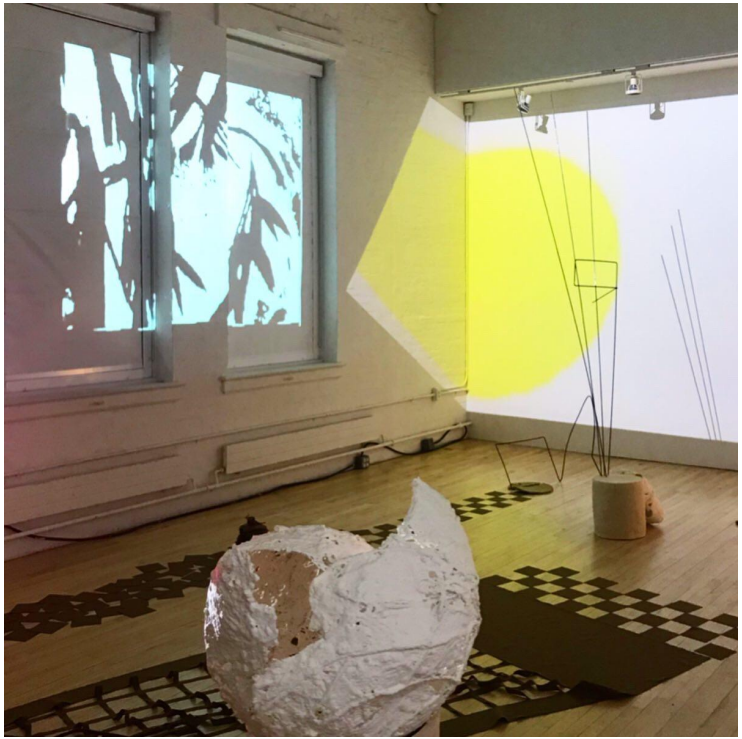

Biography

Patrick Brennan lives and works in New York City. He received his BFA from Alfred University in 1998, and is currently an MFA Candidate at Cornell University (Ithaca, NY, 2020). Brennan has shown his paintings and videos in numerous exhibitions nationally and internationally. Recent exhibitions include: V1 Gallery, Copenhagen, Halsey Mckay Gallery, MOMA / PS1, Galerie Lelong, Nicole Klagsbrun, Monya Rowe Gallery, Zieher Smith, Edward Thorpe Gallery, Artist Space and Clifton Benevento in New York and Romer Young Gallery in San Francisco. He was awarded the Liquitex Cadmium Free Research Residency (London, England) and was a visiting artist at the US Embassy to Bahrain (Manama, Bahrain) in 2017 and received the New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship in Painting in 2015. Brennan was a Visiting Assistant Professor at Alfred University (Alfred, NY) from 2013-2016, and has served as a Visiting Artist, Lecturer, and Adjunct Faculty at Auburn University (AL), Bennington College (VT), Heiner Contemporary (Washington, DC), Westchester Community College (NY), and Atlanta College of Art (GA). Brennan was a founding member of Essex Flowers Gallery and is represented by Halsey McKay in New York

C. 2020 Patrick Brennan