

An abstract painting featuring thick, textured brushstrokes. The background is a deep blue. Overlaid on this are several broad, wavy bands of color: a vibrant red band at the top, a dark grey band below it, a bright blue band, and a greenish-yellow band at the bottom. The overall effect is reminiscent of ocean waves or a stylized landscape.

# Devening Projects

ANDREW ZAROU

Waves of Return of Waves

March 22 - April 25, 2026

Devening Projects

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Devening Projects is pleased to present the first solo exhibition in Chicago for New York- and Massachusetts-based artist Andrew Zarou. *Waves of Return of Waves* will open on Sunday March 22 and continue through April 25, 2026.

“In 2018, I returned to painting after a twenty-five year hiatus. In 2023, my partner and I moved from New York City to western Massachusetts, where I attended college and where my family had property until the early 2000s. This past summer, I began playing music again after roughly twenty years. My current life has strong reverberations from when I was a student at Hampshire College in the 1990s.

My work exists in the space between formal, geometric abstraction and intuitive lyricism. Some paintings remain in the realm of non-narrative abstraction, while others veer into recognizable forms and autobiographical references. I find the latter more compelling due to the surprise of layered meanings. Initially, I didn’t know how to integrate lyrical narratives into formal abstraction—it felt vulnerable and vexing. But it’s become central to how I work now.

Waves have been a recurring motif in my work, and lately the river has been entering it as well. My studio overlooks a small river, unlike my previous Brooklyn studio which faced a busy avenue. During summer months I routinely slip in for swims. Part of the river’s appearance in the work has to do with the ergonomics of handling paint with a flat brush, but mostly it reflects my daily immersion in this landscape.

As a musician trained through punk and art rock, my go-to guitar effect is tremolo. With the intensity set at 10 and speed at 4, tremolo disrupts the present tense by bending waveforms into more pronounced waves—an ethereal net becomes present. It has a similar transportive quality to when late afternoon sun reflects off the river onto my ten-foot studio ceiling. Light patterns softly vibrate, glowing down from above. Like a pulsating note or chord, the character of space and psychology of the perceiver is transformed.

Non-dogmatic practices and chance outcomes are a big part of why I spend time making work. When I paint, I’m mostly trying to have an intuitive, material endeavor, but sometimes autobiographical associations emerge. Small and large cycles provide opportunities for themes to repeat, and I’m learning to welcome rather than resist what returns.” — Andrew Zarou, 2026

Andrew Zarou is a painter based in western Massachusetts. He has exhibited work in solo exhibitions at The Painting Center in New York (Views from the Paraffin Parapet, 2021), Schema Projects and Gridspace in Brooklyn (2015), Robert Henry Contemporary in Brooklyn (2012), and Brooklyn Public Library (2009). Group exhibitions include shows at Transmitter, Sardine, and Parallel Art Space in Brooklyn, Perimeter in Belfast, Maine, Pulp in Holyoke, Massachusetts, 57W57 Arts in New York, PS1 in Queens, Bethanien Studio 1 in Berlin, SÍM in Reykjavik, Iceland, Association A.KEN in Marseille, France, and Carlsbad Museum and Art Center in New Mexico.

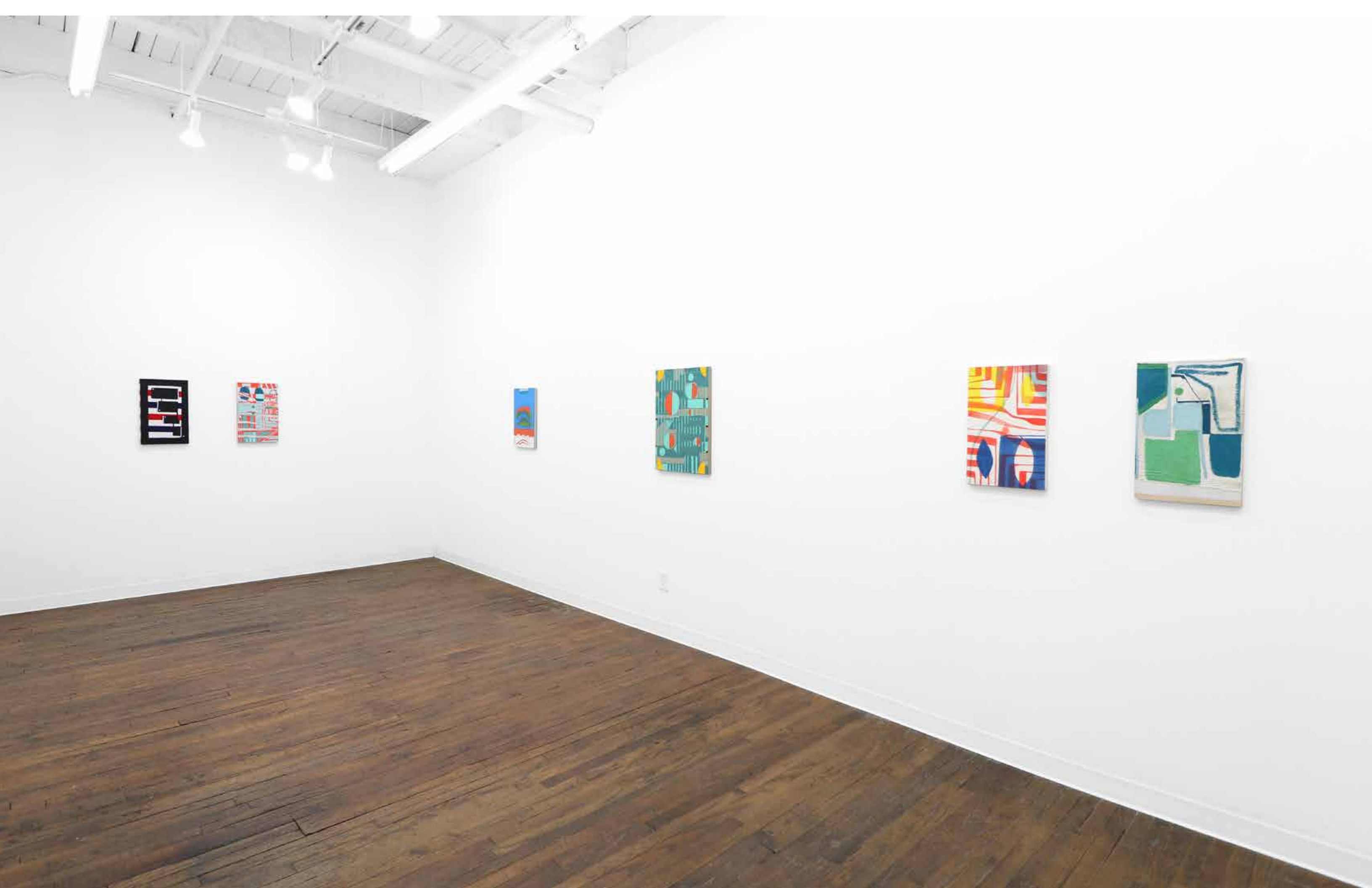
Zarou is a 2009 recipient of the Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant and has completed residencies at Yaddo (2010), The Atlantic Center for the Arts (2009), and SÍM in Reykjavik (2008). His work has been reviewed and featured in publications including The New York Times, Time Out New York, Two Coats of Paint, Hyperallergic, and Bushwick Daily. He attended Hampshire College and previously maintained a studio in Brooklyn before relocating to western Massachusetts.

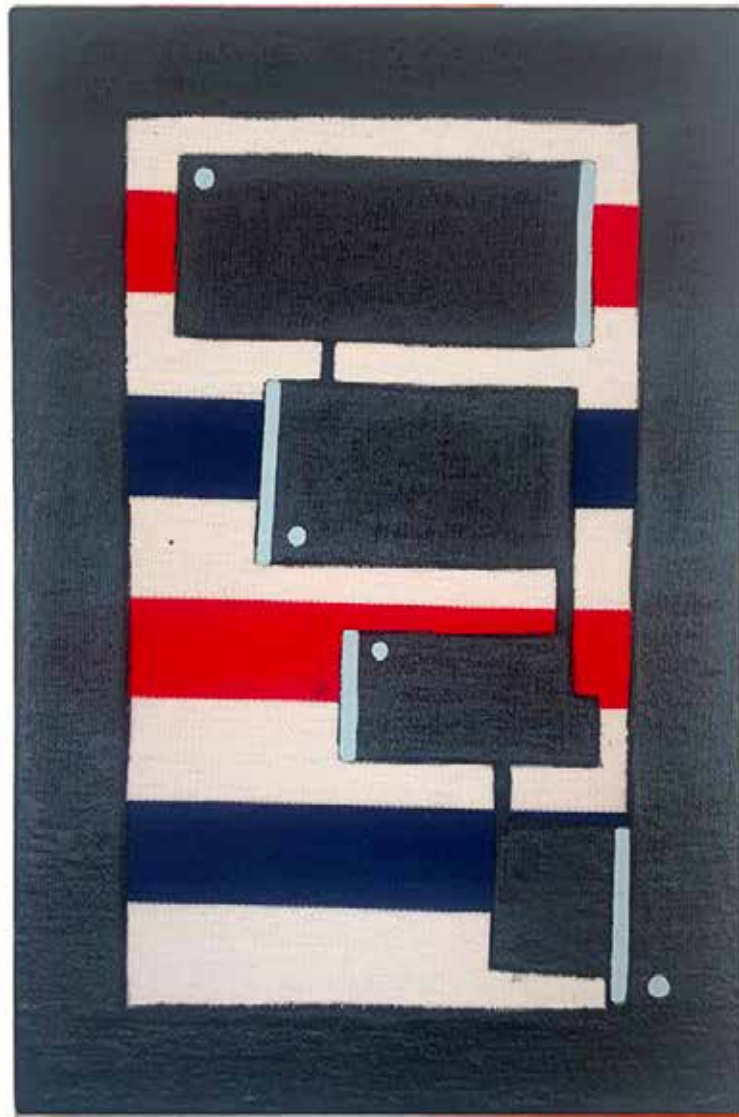






Andrew Zarou, find the river nest, 2025, Flashe and spray-paint on unprimed polyester  
18 x 12 inches \$2400





Andrew Zarou, recording self diagonal stroll, 2025, enamel and Flashe on unprimed cotton  
18 x 12 inches \$2400

8.



Andrew Zarou, sounding sound send sending (1), 2024, Flashe on unprimed muslin mounted  
on birch panel, 18 x 12 inches \$2400

9.



Andrew Zarou, december run, 2025, enamel, Flashe and latex on found textile  
18 x 12 inches \$2400





Andrew Zarou, spring reverb in march, 2026, Flashe and latex on printed cardboard on wood panel, 18 x 12 inches \$2400

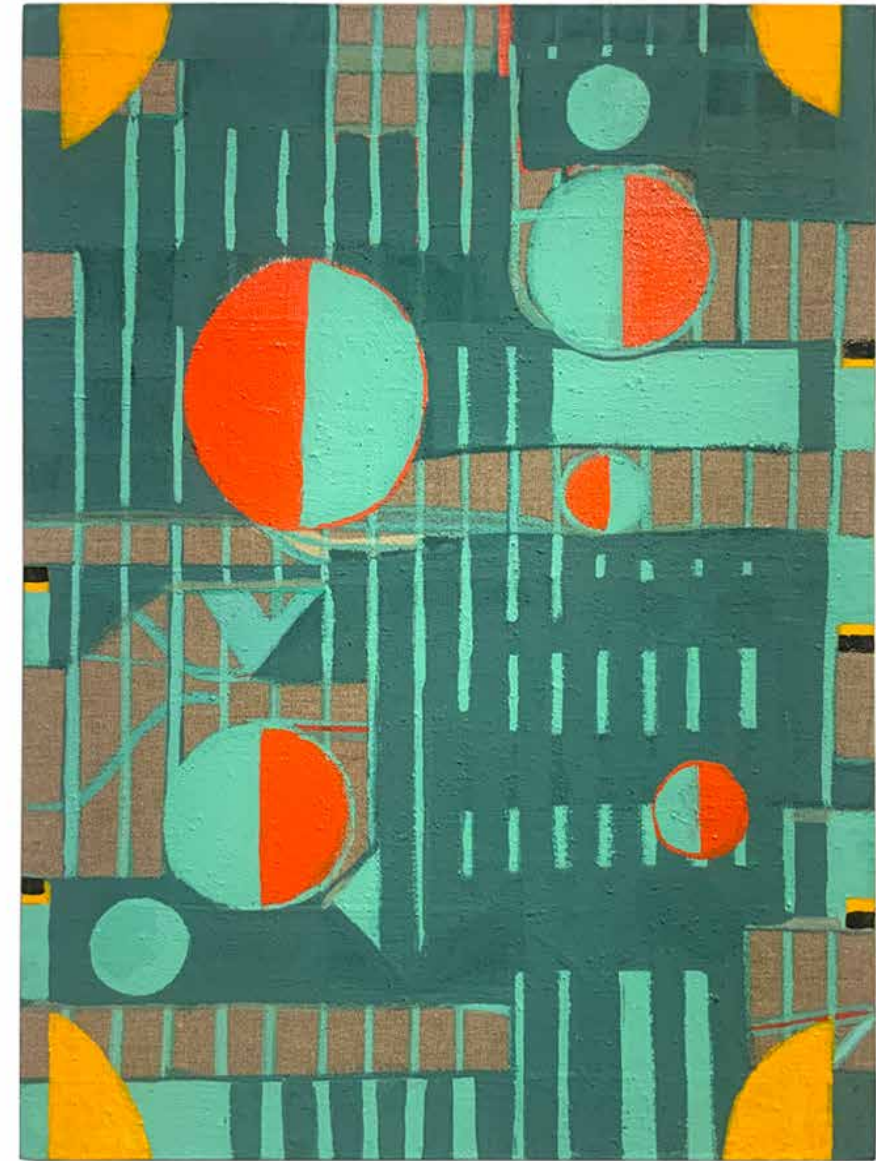
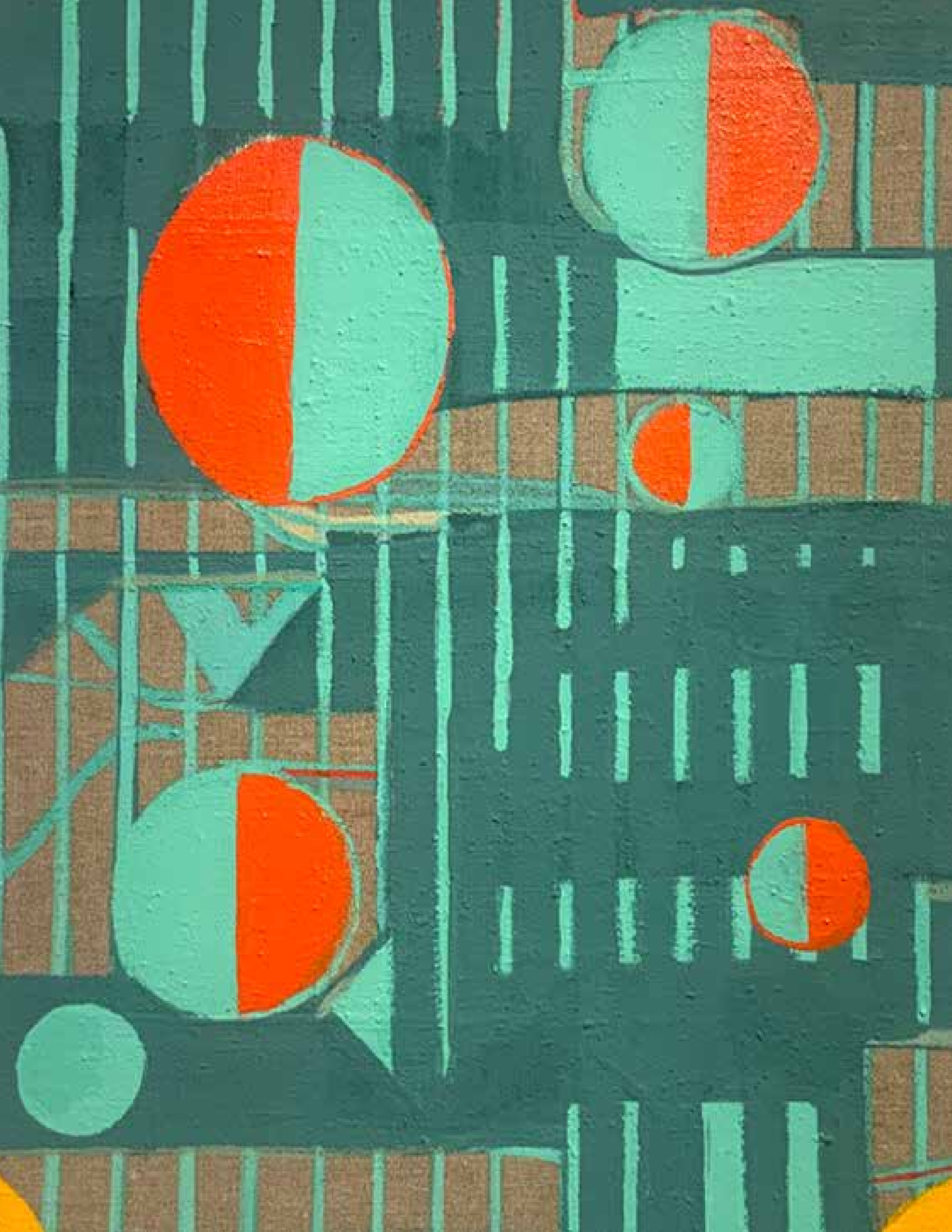
12.



Andrew Zarou, landslide quiz, 2025, Flashe on unprimed canvas, 18 x 12 inches \$2400

13.





Andrew Zarou, jaguar station, 2026, enamel and Flashe on unprimed linen  
24 x 18 inches \$3400



Andrew Zarou, adequate anchors, 2024, aluminum tape and Flashe on unprimed, found textile mounted on birch panel, 18 x 12 inches \$2400



Andrew Zarou, tidal recruits. 2025, Flashe on unprimed muslin, 18 x 12 inches \$2400



Andrew Zarou, synopsis for new england waters, 2025, Flashe on unprimed muslin  
18 x 12 inches \$2400





Andrew Zarou, river above / river below, 2022-2026, enamel, latex and vinyl paint on found textile, 18 x 12 inches \$2400

24.



Andrew Zarou, signpost (goodbye city), 2023, acrylic and Flashe on unprimed canvas 18 x 12 inches \$2400

25.



Andrew Zarou, conditions of carriage, 2024, Flashe and cotton string on unprimed muslin  
18 x 12 inches \$2400





Andrew Zarou, katedral, 2024-2026, enamel, latex and vinyl paint on textiles mounted on birchboard, 18 x 18 inches \$2400

