## MAYA FRODEMAN GALLERY

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MAYA FRODEMAN GALLERY WEST ANNOUNCES I'LL TAKE YOU THERE AN EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS BY MIKE PIGGOTT

Exhibition Dates: 08 AUGUST - 24 SEPTEMBER 2024

JACKSON HOLE, WYOMING – MAYA FRODEMAN GALLERY *WEST* is pleased to present *I'll Take You There*, a solo exhibition of work by painter Mike Piggott, on view at the gallery's Wilson location August 8<sup>th</sup> through September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. An artist reception will be held Thursday, August 8th from 5-8pm at Maya Frodeman Gallery West. All are welcome to attend. Piggott will be in attendance.

A selection of recent oil paintings, *I'll Take You There* visually transports the viewer into Mike Piggott's world of painting. This new body of work finds Piggott painting with a bright, Pop Art exuberance. A palette of pinks, yellows and greens playfully balances the cooler tones within Piggott's deceptively simple compositions.

In subject matter, Piggott has a little bit of fun with the viewer, blending hot colors into the still life imagery and recognizable local landscapes that make up some of his best work. A richly painted still life of a flower and vase gives equal attention to the brilliant woven Mexican tablecloth and the flat, pink background as subject, and the eye cannot help but have a good time. Piggott's pervasive sense of good humor is found here and elsewhere, whether in the bird's eye view of the cabin in *Silhouettes and Shadows*, a free rein Appaloosa horse with pink toenails, or the purple chinking of a log cabin. Further fun is had in an interior scene of a log cabin, a feast for the eyes with two chairs and what might be four Mike Piggott paintings hung with a mounted fish and a convex mirror above a hilarious side table wearing swim trunks. In this uncanny homage to Renaissance master Jan van Eyck (*The Arnolfini Portrait*, 1434), Mike Piggott masterfully lays claim to the "painting within a painting" and gives us a chuckle.

With a rich understanding of art history, Piggott creates compelling and curiously biographical works that document the qualities of life in the American West that span old and new. The works nod to folk art and faux naïf, while toying with two-dimensional abstraction and color-field painting approaches. Mike Piggott's images bring a haunting air even as they are pleasantly nostalgic—a celebration of nature and humanity rendered in paint.

There is a mercurial fascination with the fragility of life that Piggott communicates with his deft brushstrokes. He admits that he likes to skirt the mysteries and complexities of life for which we have few words that never seem to define the experienced sensations. He conveys this with his shadowy figures, be they ice skaters or cowgirls, desolate or cozy cabins, and with the adumbrations of lakes or streams. Inspired by diverse forebears like Milton Avery and David Hockney, Piggott doesn't just paint—he plays with perspective and color, both in paint and printmaking, and more recently with his breakthrough iPad drawings.

Mike Piggott was born in 1963, Charlottesville, VA. He received his BA at Virginia Commonwealth University and studied at the Winchester College of Art, Winchester, England. Piggott has had numerous solo exhibitions at the Tayloe Piggott Gallery, Jackson, WY, the Lynchburg Fine Arts Center, Lynchburg, VA, and at the Neapolitan Gallery, Richmond, VA, and participated in various group exhibitions. Mike Piggott lives and works in Victor, Idaho.

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Mike Piggott, Silhouettes and Shadows, 2024, Oil on canvas, 12 x 16 inches



Mike Piggott, Untitled, 2024, Oil on canvas,  $12 \times 16$  inches



Mike Piggott, *Untitled*, 2024, Oil on canvas, 20 x 24 inches

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Mike Piggott, Untitled, 2024, Oil on canvas, 48 x 36 inches

Specializing in modern and contemporary art, Maya Frodeman Gallery, formerly Tayloe Piggott Gallery, unites artists from all over the world in a tightly curated vision. Maya Frodeman Gallery began in 2024, continuing the 23-year legacy of Tayloe Piggott's eponymous gallery, the first of its kind in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. In an expansive exhibition space in downtown Jackson Hole, the gallery pursues a rigorous schedule of exhibitions representing both emerging and established artists, encompassing unique practices of painting, sculpture, paper, photography, and printmaking.

Exhibiting contemporary giants such as Caio Fonseca, Jane Rosen, Richard Fleischner, Rakuko Naito, Nicola Hicks, and Stephen Talasnik alongside emerging stars like Jane Yang D'Haene and Kathryn Lynch, Maya Frodeman Gallery supports its extensive contemporary roster with close relationships with the estates of Wolf Kahn, Emily Mason, Hans Hofmann, and Esteban Vicente.

From first-time buyers to seasoned collectors, the woman-owned and women-led gallery assists a wide range of clients with the intricacies of collecting contemporary art. Our staff has the knowledge and expertise to facilitate art acquisitions, advise collection management, and curate the interiors of private spaces.

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