

Art

Five NYC Shows to Round Out Your April

Politics and painting are at the center of shows by Beau Dick, Sam Jablon, Mira Schor, Rose B. Simpson, and Gary Stephan.



Sam Jablon, "Pleasure" (2023), oil on linen, 60 x 50 inches (image courtesy Morgan Presents)

Sam Jablon: *Linger Longer*

Sam Jablon is a poet who paints, which distinguishes him from Cy Twombly and Dana Frankfort, both of whom are painters who use words. He paints short phrases and words from his poems atop brushy grounds or loose, gestural brushstrokes in a contrasting color — red on blue, for example. The letters' vertical, horizontal, and curving lines interact with the swirling, agitated ground in different ways, from stark graphic contrast to seemingly dissolving brush marks. In *Linger Longer*, Jablon's first show in five years, he chooses phrases and words that allude in more or less overt ways to time: for example, "Linger Longer," "Don't Panic," and "Desire." I imagine these phrases as part of the artist's daily conversation with himself, rather than public declarations. It is this tension between the private and public, common phrases and deep feelings, that he weaves into his work, with the directness of the lettering and gestural, emotive brushwork and color relationships. Through painting, he attempts to slow down time, to make what inevitably passes into something permanent. —*John Yau*

Morgan Presents (morgan-presents.com)
537 West 27th Street, Chelsea, Manhattan
Through May 3