



1969
GALLERY

Drew Dodge | *Deep Down*, 2023 | oil on canvas | 72h x 120w inches

Drew Dodge: *Deep Down*

May 4 - June 17, 2023
39 White Street, Tribeca

www.1969gallery.com

Drew Dodge: *Deep Down*

Exhibition Dates: May 4 – June 17, 2023

Opening: May 4th, @ 6PM - 8PM

39 White Street, Tribeca



1969 Gallery is pleased to present *Deep Down*, Drew Dodge's first solo exhibition at the gallery. The title of the exhibition connects Dodge's innermost consciousness and core with the depths of the earth and its landscape. Throughout the exhibition, anthropomorphic figures seek and discover bull skulls, which Dodge re-presents as intimate memory-holding vessels that are empathetic, absorbent, quiet and sexual, unveiling another dimension to the opaque symbol that demands masculinity, ambition and death. The figures identify with the skull, infusing it with a soulfulness, which is how Dodge considers his own body, purpose and momentariness.

In *Corkscrew*, two figures drill an enormous skull into the beach shore while waves crash behind. The figures are trapped in a loop, spiraling the skull into the sand indefinitely as the endless cycle of burying and washing away interferes and intensifies the figures' efforts. Nonetheless, they are devoted to anchoring the skull to the earth to conceal a treasured part of themselves before the storm rolls in.

The queer relationship between the figure and the skull is emblematic of a personal spirituality that is mirrored in the landscape. As the settings of the paintings change, lava, mud, and water spill from the crevices of the skull. Molten, bubbling and turbulent, the fluidity of these materials synchronizes with the figures to articulate their ever changing existence. The figures are engulfed in these elemental materials, emerging and sinking as the active landscapes ooze energy, sexuality and spirit.

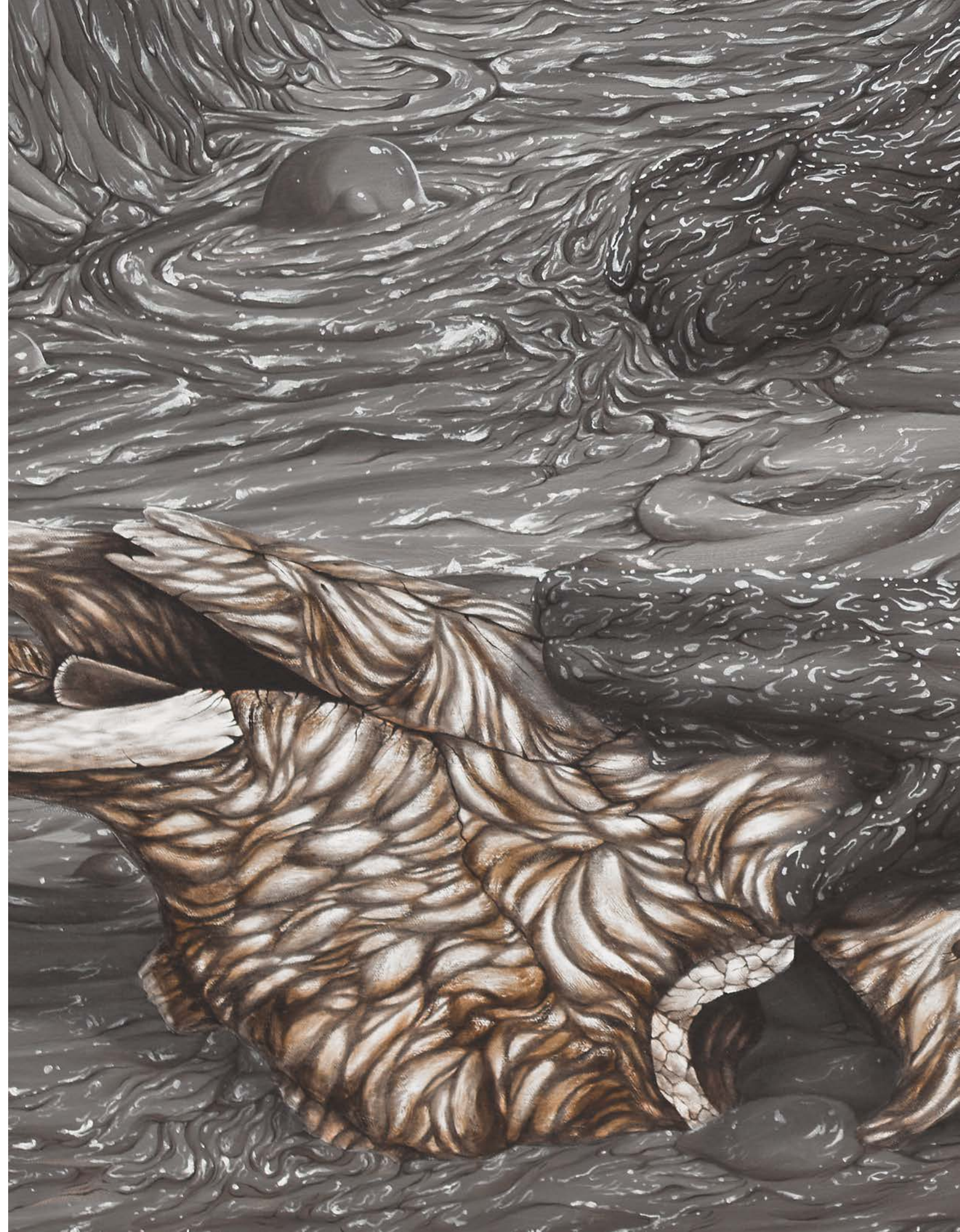
In *Meeting Point*, two figures are suspended in an open sky reclining in the arms of a monumental sky-scraping cactus. Although there is no skull depicted, the cactus's verdant flesh, fallen spines, scars, and rotting skin exposes a wood skeleton with arms that stem from its core like horns. The corporeal character of the cactus continues as phallic appendages curve over the figures with tight ends, meeting the fingertips of the figures. Dodge communicates a feeling of sexuality and queer serenity. However, there is simultaneously a feeling of love and loss or pleasure and pain as the two figures, one with eyes shut, touch toes beside the dying corpse of a cactus. Altogether, the landscape shares a synergy with the body, providing a sense of belonging for the figures.

Deep Down presents a captivating exploration of the human psyche and its connection to the natural world. Through the use of elemental materials coupled with the evocative figures, Dodge presents a poignant reflection on the complexity of human existence and the search for identity, purpose and belonging.



Courtesy of Daniel Rampulla and 1969 Gallery

Drew Dodge (b. 2001, Monterey, CA) currently lives and works in New York. He received a BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design in Providence, RI (2022). He is represented by 1969 Gallery in New York, NY, where his solo exhibition, *Deep Down*, opens in 2023. He has been included in solo and group exhibitions at Steve Turner, Los Angeles, CA; 1969 Gallery, New York, NY; Eve Leibe Gallery, London, UK; L21 Gallery, Mallorca, Spain; Galerie Droste, Düsseldorf, Germany; and Semiose, Paris, FR. His work was exhibited at the Untitled Art Fair (Miami Beach 2021) and The Armory Show (New York 2022). Dodge's work has been acquired by Institute of Contemporary Art Miami, Miami, FL.



Drew Dodge | *Spill*, 2023 | oil on canvas | 54h x 78w inches



Drew Dodge | *Trap*, 2023 | oil on canvas | 54h x 78w inches



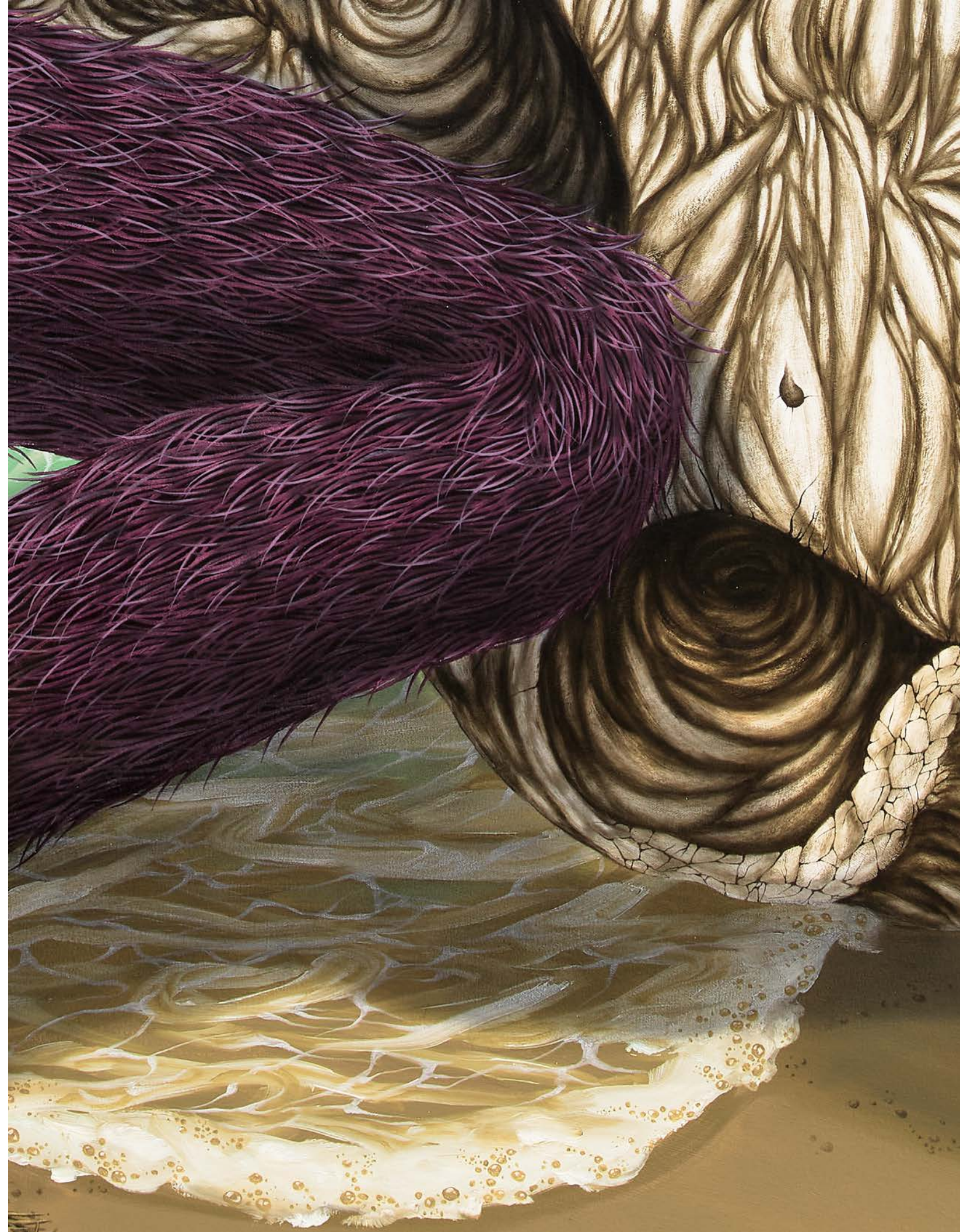
Drew Dodge | *Victory*, 2023 | oil on canvas | 84h x 60w inches





Drew Dodge | *Double Oculus*, 2023 | oil on canvas | 78h x 54w inches

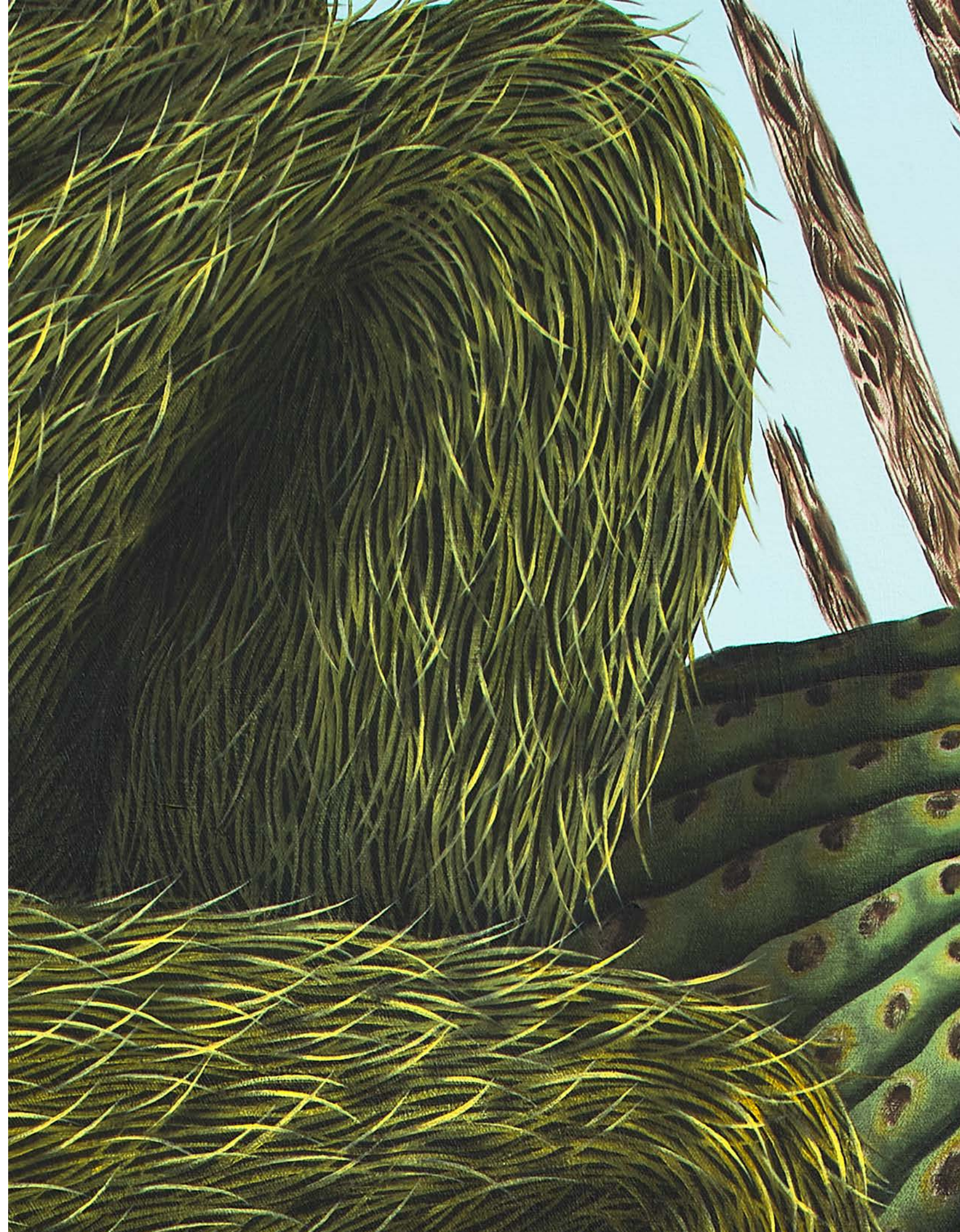


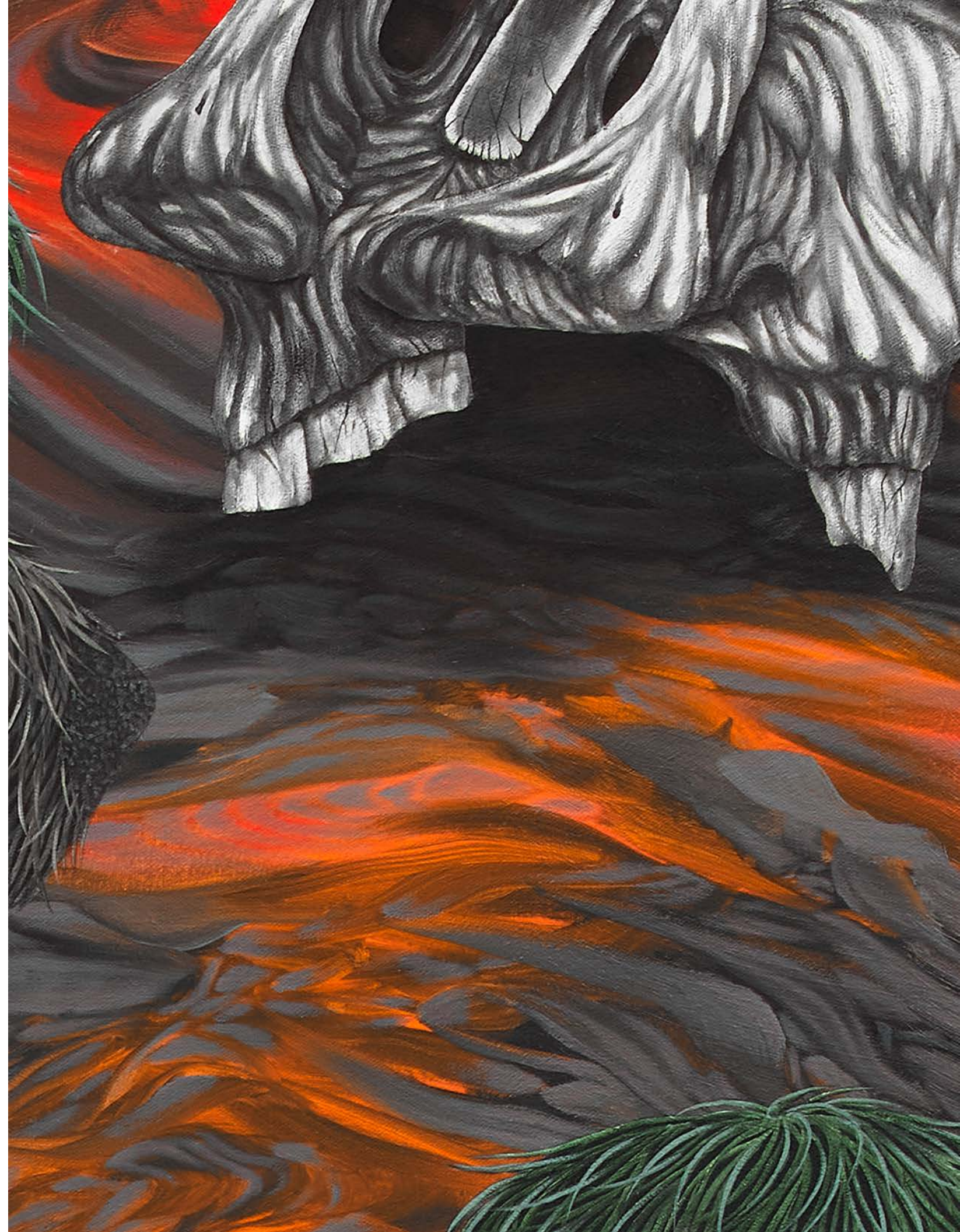


Drew Dodge | *Corkscrew*, 2023 | oil on canvas | 84h x 84w inches



Drew Dodge | *Meeting Point*, 2023 | oil on canvas | 108h x 66w inches





Drew Dodge | *Deep Down*, 2023 | oil on canvas | 72h x 120w inches



Drew Dodge | *Finale*, 2023 | oil on canvas | 36h x 54w inches

DREW DODGE (b. 2001, Monterey, CA)
Lives and works in New York, NY



EDUCATION

2022

BFA, Rhode Island School of Design

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2023

Drew Dodge: *Deep Down*, 1969 Gallery, New York, NY (solo)
Flesh + Bone: Drew Dodge and Tiger Rocha, 1969 Gallery, New York, NY
The Minotaur's Daydream, curated by Anthony Cudahy, Semiose, Paris

2022

Untitled Art Fair Miami Beach, Steve Turner, Miami, FL
Prophecy, Steve Turner, Los Angeles, CA (solo)
The Armory Show, 1969 Gallery, New York, NY
Enigma, L21 Gallery, Mallorca Spain
Drew Dodge + Emma Steinkraus, 1969 Gallery, New York, NY

2021

Untitled Art Fair Miami Beach, Steve Turner Gallery, Miami, FL
Universes 4, Galerie Droste, Paris, France
Wasteland, Steve Turner, Los Angeles, CA
Cave Canem, Eve Leibe Gallery, London, UK

INSTITUTIONAL AND PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, FL
Michael and Leslie Weissman, Mt. Kisco, NY
Francisco Bena, Milan, Italy
Walter Tambke, Copenhagen, Denmark
Jason Swartz, Los Angeles, CA
John Marquez, Miami, FL
David Kolbusz, London, UK