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GALLERY & ART ADVISORY

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Laura Pacchini

*In The Sun*

August 8 - September 21, 2024

Opening: Sunday, August 18, 2-4pm

Sarah Shepard Gallery welcomes Bay Area artist Laura Pacchini for a solo exhibition of 14 new works. The natural world's constant change, vitality, responsiveness to weather, and striking drama drive Pacchini's current work. Her laser focus is vividly revealed in the graphic works forming this sun-dappled exhibition, *In the Sun*. The paintings capture Pacchini's time spent in Marin County, Italy, and her garden. While she paints in various media, her current choice is interior house paint.

"For me, painting balances formal training, conceptual thoughts, and cultural interventions. It's how I find meaning as an individual and a part of the greater world."— Laura Pacchini

Pacchini deliberately creates her brightly colored and geometrically patterned canvases to counter the idea that art must provoke and challenge. Contextualized within the setting of a polarized world, her paintings reflect the comforts of nature.

In 2021, Pacchini gained attention for her nature-themed murals at an exhibition at the Covid Field Hospital in the Presidio. San Francisco set up the hospital as an overflow site for Covid patients, should local hospitals be overwhelmed, though thankfully, that didn't happen. As the lead artist for the project, she led the effort to paint 97 murals hung between bed partitions to comfort patients and remind them of the world's beauty.

A three-story mural by Pacchini, commissioned by the supportive housing organization Dignity Moves, can be seen on the exterior of a transitional housing facility located on Gough Street between Market and McCoppin Streets in San Francisco.

Pacchini's works have been shown at multiple galleries in San Francisco, including the Minnesota Street Project, the San Francisco Art Institute, the Incline Gallery, the Upper Market Gallery, the Atrium Gallery, and the Schafer Gallery. Her work has also been displayed at the David Ireland House and the Miriam Dretler Gallery in Provincetown, MA.

Educated at the San Francisco Art Institute (MFA) and Denison University (BA), Pacchini furthered her studies at the Studio Art Center International in Florence, the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, and with English artist, Julie Ramos. Her teaching engagements include Marin Country Day School; SFAI City Studios/Artivate in San Francisco; San Francisco Arts Education Project; and the San Francisco Art Institute.

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