



DAY TO NIGHT

CHRISTINA KENT

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JANUARY 9 - FEBRUARY 29, 2024

PENCE GALLERY

212 D ST. DAVIS, CALIFORNIA

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USED IN ANY MANNER WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION BY THE ARTIST. COVER ARTWORK BY:
CHRISTINA KENT, "NIGHT SHIFT", OIL ON CANVAS, 48IN X 72IN X X 1.5IN.

ARTIST STATEMENT

In my figurative oil paintings, I uncover the hidden intricacies of light and color woven into the fabric of scenes from everyday life. As a former PhD economist, my transition to painting was catalyzed by the realization that the rational economic models were insufficient to capture the diversity inherent in human experiences. These reductive models extended into my perception of the world, preventing me from seeing the true reality in front of me. In response, I began a direct, phenomenological investigation of the world through painting.

Turning my research focus to my visual experience, I noticed how my rational mental models were blinding me to the complexity of reality. Focusing my full attention on what I saw in my surroundings led me to find striking nuances in the places I thought I knew. My paintings of scenes from my daily life capture these moments of discovery when the mundane transforms into the sublime.

Investigation of the familiar is a central theme in my work. Through daily walks around San Francisco, I practice paying close attention to the places I know, observing the subtle shifts in light and color throughout the year. I visit the same location repeatedly, sometimes hundreds of times, and reflect on minute changes from one visit to the next. In this process, I interrogate my rational mental models of places and instead attempt to see without expectation. This often reveals layers of endless nuance that resist classification. My focus on everyday moments provides a tangible and relatable context to an otherwise obscure process.

My work often depicts people caught in these urban scenes, absorbed in the moment, whether in contemplation or conversation. Although the figures in these paintings may look away from the viewer, they provide a pathway for connection and highlight the bittersweet nature of fleeting moments.



(Left)
Potrero View
Oil on canvas
30in x 40in
\$2100

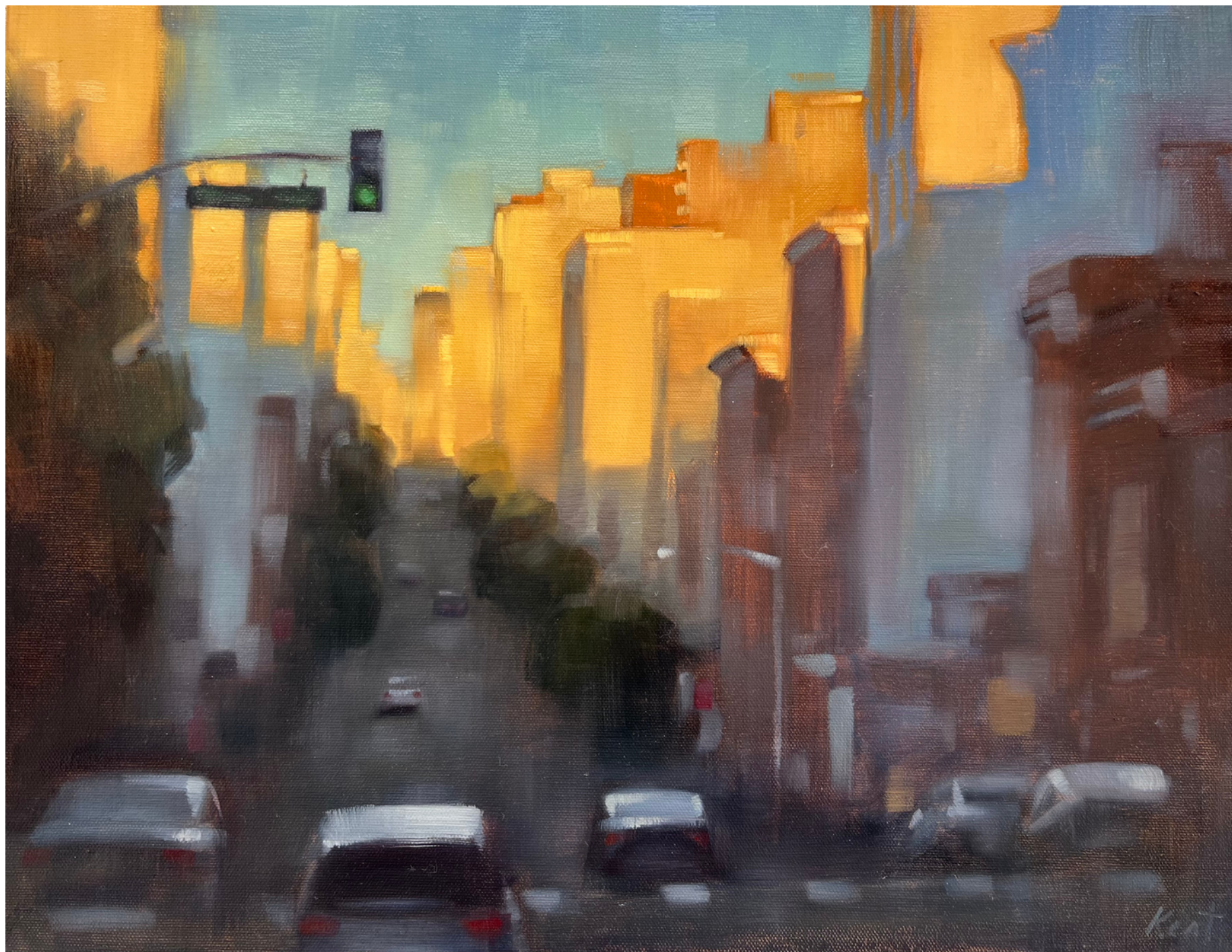
(Right)
19th and De De Haro
Oil on canvas
48in x 48in
\$4000





(Left)
Afternoon in the Park
Christina Kent
Oil on canvas
24in x 24in
\$1350

(Right)
Golden Hour Downtown
Christina Kent
Oil on canvas
14in x 18in
\$880





(Left)
Looking Towards the Bay
Christina Kent
Oil on canvas
16in x 20in
\$900

(Right)
Dusk by the Bay
Christina Kent
Oil on canvas
40in x 60in
\$4400





Dusk over the Dunes
Christina Kent
Oil on canvas
36in x 36in
\$2300

Date Night in the Mission
Christina Kent
Oil on canvas
36in x 36in
\$4000





(Left)
Night Shift
Christina Kent
Oil on canvas
48in x 72in
\$6000

(Right)
Grab a Bite
Christina Kent
Oil on canvas
48in x 48in
\$4000





(Left)
Night Out
Christina Kent
Oil on canvas
40in x 60in
\$4400

(Right)
Grab a Bite
Christina Kent
Oil on canvas
36in x 36in
\$2300





ARTIST BIO

Christina Kent (b. 1993, The Woodlands, Texas) is a figurative painter working primarily in oils. A former PhD economist, Kent's transition to painting was catalyzed by a realization that the rational economic lens was insufficient to capture the profound complexity inherent in human experience. Through her paintings she reflects on the subtle nuances hidden in mundane moments of everyday life.

Kent has exhibited at Studio, Gallery, San Francisco, CA; Arc Gallery, San Francisco, CA; Inclusions Gallery, San Francisco, CA; and Pence Gallery, Davis, CA; among others. In 2023, Kent was awarded the Emerging Artist Award from Pence Gallery. Also in 2023, her work was selected as a finalist in the Portrait Society of America's Members Only Competition and as an honorable mention in the Sheridan Prize for Art. Kent currently lives and works in San Francisco, California.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to the Pence Gallery for hosting the exhibition and supporting this work through the Emerging Artist Award. In particular, the support of Pence Gallery Director Natalie Nelson was invaluable in curating and organizing this exhibition. I would also like to thank Katharine Schultz and the rest of the staff at the Pence Gallery for their help with this exhibition.

This work would not have been possible without the support of Rosa Marquez and Yatish Mishra who generously sponsored the Pence Gallery Emerging Artist Award.