

Bruce Cohen
Interiors and Still Lifes

November 5 – December 31, 2022

LESLIE SACKS GALLERY



Bruce Cohen, born 1953, is a Los Angeles based artist with a decades-long career making meticulous, curious interior environments tinged with surrealism. The work nods to the old masters and Cohen's personal passion for art history. Stylistically, the work's central focus of everyday objects from daily life connects to 17th century Dutch masters from whom he draws great inspiration. In practice, Cohen successfully summons a contemporary sensibility with a polished, yet punchy palette and an almost surreal compression of the picture plane. He executes mastery of the subject and uses this to his advantage, constantly perfecting his process to stunning effect and culminating in an unhurried and meticulous rendering. Similar to Pop artists like Jasper Johns and Jim Dine who employ a visual vocabulary of repeated imagery, Cohen too revisits a set of motifs and objects (flowers, vases, books, windowsills) reimagining infinite arrangements and environments. Cohen rejects the conventional compositional practices of painting still lifes. And while absent of any figures, these settings unquestionably infer a human presence. Geometric networks of windows, doorways and shall ensure a human presence are instructure reminiscent of Richard Diebenkorn's Ocean Park series, again emblematic of Cohen's keen art historical sensibilities, which consciously and subconsciously inform and enhance his oeuvre. Bruce Cohen studied at the Universities of California, Berkeley, Los Angeles, and Santa Barbara. Painting for over forty years, his work is held in numerous esteemed public and private collections; Collection of Lynda and Stewart Resnick, The Santa Barbara Museum of Art, San Diego Museum of Art, San Jose Museum of Art, Frederick R. Weisman Foundation, Palm Springs Desert Museum of Art, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, among others. Bruce Cohen lives and works in Santa Monica, California.





Lemon and Anemones on White Tablecloth, 2022, oil on canvas, 34 x 34 inches



Still Life with Yellow Tulips and Tablecloth, 2022, oil on canvas, 34 x 34 inches



Interior with Yellow Tulips and Cloud Painting, 2021, oil on canvas, 36 x 54 inches



Interior with Two Vases and Matisee Cut-Out, 2022, oil on canvas, 36 x 54 inches





Interior with Pink Tulips and On Kawara, 2022, oil on canvas, 36 x 54 inches



Interior with Purple Pillow and Ocean View, 2022, oil on canvas, 36 x 54 inches



Interior with Unmade Bed, 2022, oil on canvas, 36 x 54 inches





