

## KATHRYN MARKEL FINE ARTS PRESENTS *EVERYDAY IMPROVISATIONS* AN EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS BY FRAN SHALOM

October 16 – December 6, 2025 Artist Reception: October 23, 6-8pm 179 10th Avenue Gallery

**NEW YORK, NY –October 10, 2025 – Kathryn Markel Fine Arts** is pleased to announce *Everyday Improvisations*, an exhibition of new abstract paintings by Fran Shalom. This will be her fifth solo exhibition with the gallery. An opening reception will be held on October 23 from 6-8pm.

Quirky, ambiguous figures inhabit Fran Shalom's paintings. Their bright, cartoony colors and buoyant forms fill each composition with playful energy. Her shapes, while fully abstract, reference the body and recognizable objects. She thinks of them as, "ambiguous characters who inhabit my studio keeping me company and often engaging in silent conversation." Animated and boisterous Shalom's characters are evocative of the familiar but remain just out of reach.

A jaunty line meanders and encircles Shalom's unruly shapes. Central forms and pared-down backgrounds echo icons. She gravitates to simple shapes and hard edges but builds depth through textured surfaces. Painting improvisationally, she adds and subtracts - building, wiping, scraping, and reshaping. This revealing and covering creates layered imagery. In many works, fields of rich color are interrupted by traces of past hues and ghosts of earlier forms.



Fran Shalom has exhibited widely throughout the United States, including solo shows at Fogg Art Museum, Cambridge, MA, and Hunterdon Museum, Clinton, NJ. She is a recipient of the Pollock Krasner Foundation Grant and residencies at MacDowell Fellowship and Art Omi. Her work is included in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Brooklyn Museum, the Rose Art Museum, and the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris. She is represented by Kathryn Markel Fine Arts.

## **IMAGE CAPTION**

Fran Shalom, Hoopla, 2024, oil on wood, 30 x 24 in.



## MEDIA CONTACT

Shannon O'Deens <a href="mailto:shannon@markelfinearts.com">shannon@markelfinearts.com</a>

## ABOUT KATHRYN MARKEL FINE ARTS

The gallery was established in 1976 with the belief that significant contemporary art can be beautiful as well as visually and intellectually rigorous. To that end, the gallery exhibits a diverse group of artists unified by excellence in their craft, compelling intellectual framework, and a love of the art-making process. <a href="https://www.markelfinearts.com/">https://www.markelfinearts.com/</a>

**20th Street** 529 W 20th St. 6W

New York, NY 10011

10th Avenue

179 10th Avenue New York, NY 10011