

Griffin Allman
Playpen

The paintings that I make are an attempt to repurpose simple geometric forms as a comprehensive visual language that resonates and reflects with our senses, emotions, and personal experiences. Simple shapes, such as the square, rectangle, and circle, are loaded symbols that all people are accustomed to seeing and interacting with on a daily basis. While there is an objective and mathematical foundation related to the existence and purpose of these shapes, they are more commonly seen as universal icons, holding an enormous amount of implied information and meaning that changes throughout different locations and cultures. The potential for the interpretation of these elements is what I am interested in, specifically allowing the shapes to become images that hold content and experience that is much greater than just that shape alone. I seek to manipulate geometric forms as dynamic compositional elements that are able to allude to intimate moments and memories, while also taking advantage of nostalgia and tradition as a visual aesthetic and place in time. I do not only see simple shapes as a vehicle for implied or subjective meaning, but also as containers or frames in which these experiences and memories are held.