

# I N M A N G A L L E R Y

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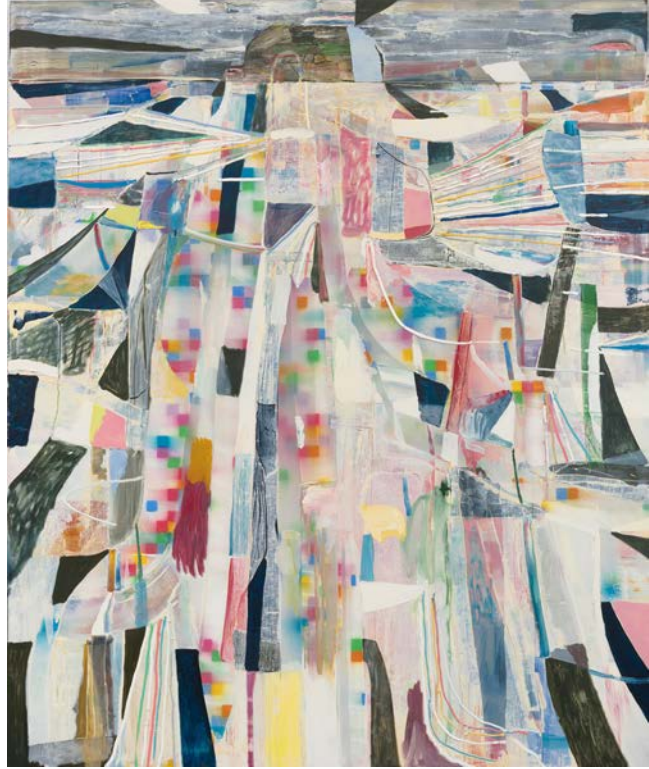
Inman Gallery is pleased to present  
the exhibition:

## Tomory Dodge

January 13 – March 4, 2017

Opening Reception:  
Friday, January 13th, 6 - 8 pm

Inman Gallery is pleased to present  
**Tomory Dodge** in the South Gallery. In the  
Main Gallery we present **Emily Joyce: *The  
Masks***. This is Dodge's first solo show with  
Inman Gallery. Both shows open Friday,  
January 13, with a reception from 6 to 8 pm,  
and continue through March 4.



Tomory Dodge, *Dwelling*, 2016 oil on canvas, 72 x 60 inches

Dodge's works vibrate with pictorial surface tension, patterns and subtle figural hints within heavily abstracted surfaces. Ranging in size from intimately scaled, portable works to the very large, Dodge's exhibition of oil on canvas paintings and works on paper works reveal how paint can inhabit the realm between "here" and "there".

Although each painting possesses its own unique compositional form and metaphysical reality, they all share intense evidence of the labor of their making. *Dwelling* is one of two large works in the exhibition, and is an example of Dodge's impressive array of technique. From a central, blurry smudge of a checkered pattern, the painting emerges into a perspectival, down-the-road view capped by a horizon line and a tunnel-like form. The entire canvas is restlessly filled with disparate painterly marks - thin tubes of painted lines snake around washes and wedges of brushed-in color. Surfaces built up with paint adjoin scraped down or rubbed-down pastel portals.

As a painter, Dodge sets up and surmounts structural challenges within each work while allowing for the gestural evidence of the human hand. For example, classic triangular organization of the composition dominates the larger work *Gum Shoe* (which also has an all-over triangle pattern) and the smaller work, *Figure*. In each work, the expressive exuberance is not lost, and even triumphs over its own infrastructure.

Similarly, in smaller works, Dodge expertly maintains a crystal-clear vision while balancing noise and silence on the surface. *Rain II* permits a near all-over vertical pattern of thin flamingo-pink bars, beneath which the just-perceivable geometric forms emerge under a wash of white gesso-like layer. Landscapes are frequent motifs in Dodge's works; here a sincere, steamy atmosphere rises off the surface of a semi-experimental experience translated from painter to viewer. Here, as in other works, Dodge allows for the freedom of unexpected combinations and chance within a heavily structured formalism.

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An Angeleno for over a decade, Dodge draws on the cacophony of landscapes, light and vantage points in urban Southern California. An aesthetic of the road is plainly on view in *Device*, in which headlights peer over a dense mass of thick brush-strokes. Dodge has long been interested in the play between background and foreground, creating an atmosphere for the sinewy forms that inhabit the surface. If paint can be collaged against itself, then Dodge has certainly found a way to execute it; more overt examples of a collage aesthetic is apparent in *Anvil* and *Rigging*, where paint is sliced up into collaged forms ranging from solid blocks to hints at photography-like images. Forms are pushed up against the surface, one atop another, until there is no room for anything but the paint. Dodge's enthusiasm for forming closed universes within each work is apparent in these works, and throughout the exhibition, which unapologetically straddle mediums without blinking.



Tomory Dodge, *Anvil*, 2014  
collage on paper, 12 x 16 inches

Tomory Dodge (born 1974, Denver, CO) lives and works in Los Angeles. Dodge earned a BFA (1998) at Rhode Island School of Design and a MFA at the California Institute of the Arts (2004). He is the recipient of the prestigious Joan Mitchell Foundation MFA Grant, and has exhibited widely both nationally and internationally. His work is included in the collections of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Smithsonian American Art Museum, the Yale University Art Gallery, and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, among many other institutions.

For more information, please contact the gallery at (713) 526-7800 or at [info@inmangallery.com](mailto:info@inmangallery.com).