

SCOTT BENNETT



PAINTINGS 2025

"Here we find ourselves suddenly not in a critical speculation but in a holy place, and should go very warily and reverently. We stand before the secret of the world, there where Being passes into Appearance and Unity into Variety. The Universe is the externization of the soul."

- Ralph Waldo Emerson: Essays, Second Series

At 74 I feel like I have come to a place where my work is integrating the elements and influences that have occupied my studio practice from the beginning, in a way that satisfies my demanding standards more fully than before. I am a landscape painter at heart but I need the freedom that non-objective abstraction offers.

My influences and inspiration come from all great painting and sculpture all the way back to the caves. "Great", for me, is defined simply by what moves me the most. This includes works from Medieval times into the Renaissance through impressionism, Pre-War American Modernism, Cubism, Abstract Expressionism, Color Field, Post Painterly Abstraction, African and Oceanic tribal sculpture and architecture, Early American Quilt and Folk Art design, Children's Art and of course my contemporary colleagues and peers. My personal connection to the Natural World feels like the backbone of my inspiration whether I am making representational or more abstract pictures.

The Sea Stack and related abstract landscape pictures occupied me for quite some time and led me to these newest pictures that began in late 2024 and continued through 2025 and into 2026. But there are also paintings from the 80's and 90's that were heading in or hinting at this direction. Even my Tree Portrait and Color Stack series, which I continue to follow up on, offer fodder for these newest pictures where a simplified format contains an expanse of thinly applied color and a more thickly painted collaged shape placed toward the bottom of the picture with poured flat color areas on the sides and bottom (some exceptions). In most cases there are areas of thick paint extruding from under the edges of the collaged piece. There are variations I have yet to follow up on.

The first part of the catalogue shows some of these variations and works that are precursors relating to the development of the most recent works. What I hope for is a kind of distillation and simplification; a way to focus and clarify through physical means, the wonder and mystical nature of being. While I have a healthy deep satisfaction with these new paintings, I know that the internal demands I feel will continue to drive me and my work as the paintings unfold and change - one by one.

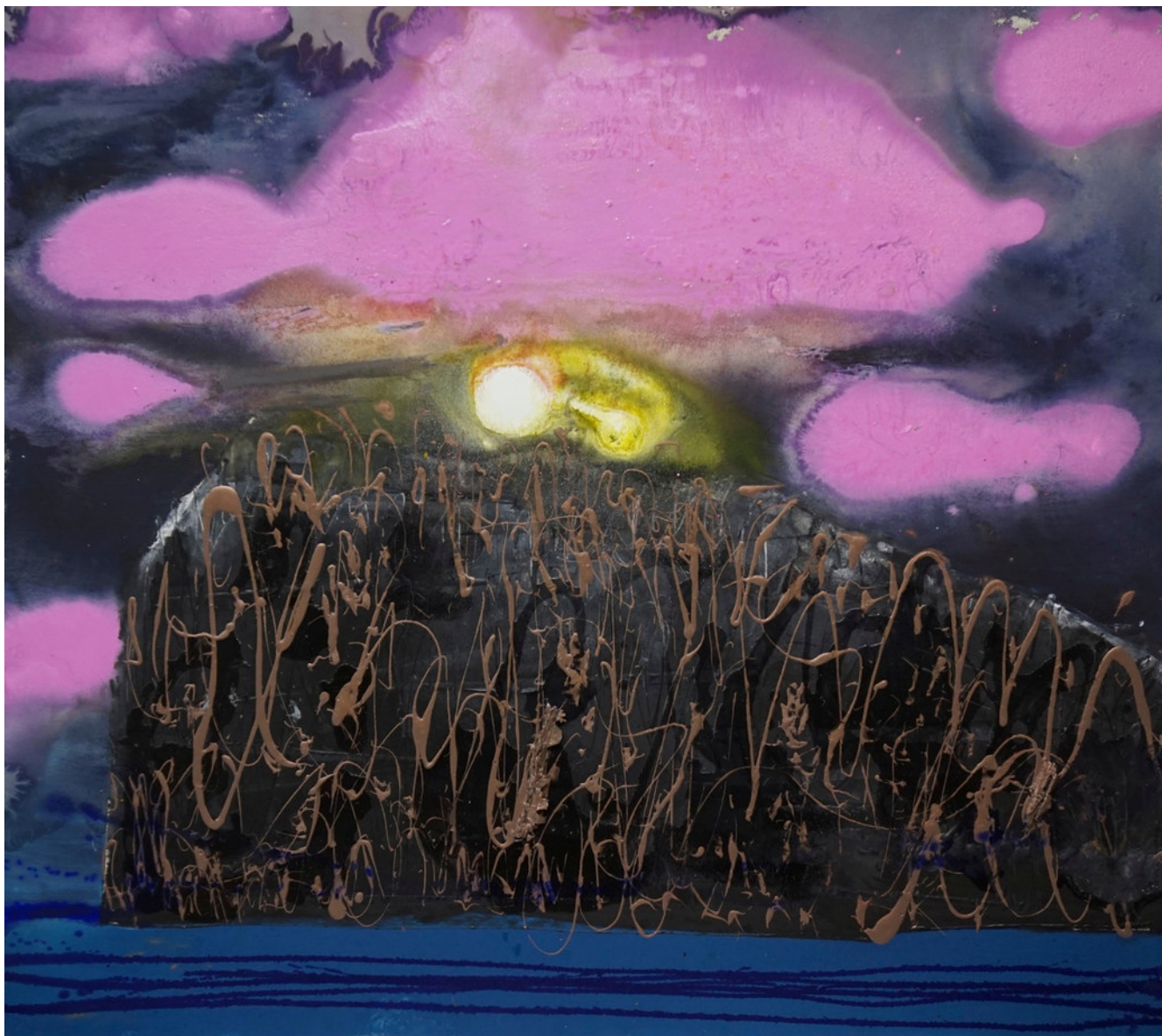
Scott Bennett December 2025



Argonaut, 2024, acrylic, collage, Iridescent polyester flakes on canvas, 23 x 26 1/2"



Sun, 2016, acrylic and collage on canvas, 23.25 x 30"



Black Mountain Moon, 2015, acrylic on canvas, 47 x 53.25"



Tan Tan, 2023, acrylic and collage on canvas, 20.25 x 25.25"



Gray Stack, 2020-23, acrylic on canvas, 27 x 35.5"



Rising, 2024, acrylic and collage on canvas, 30.75 x 58.5"



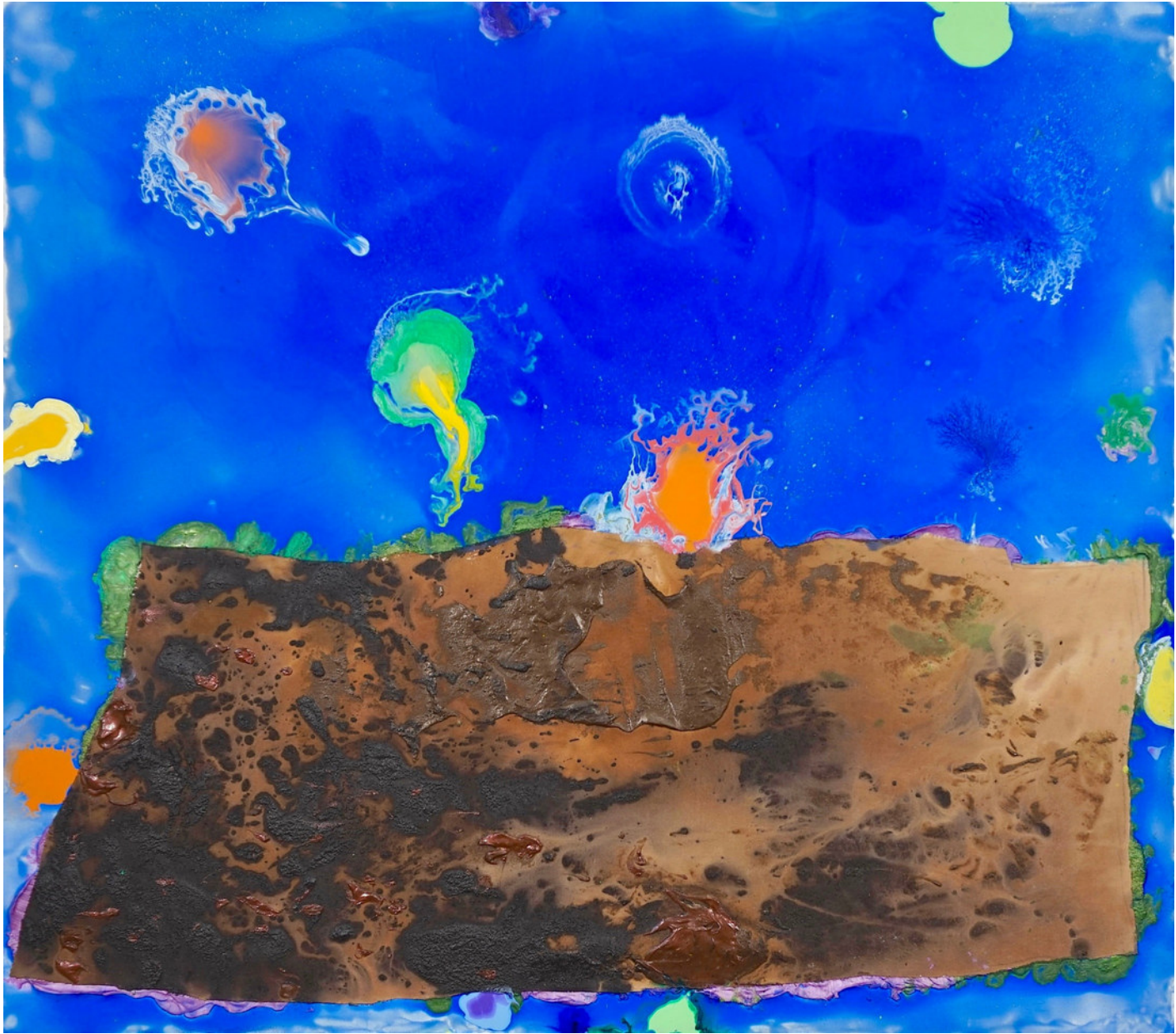
The Scale of Gravity, 2024, acrylic and collage on canvas, 31 x 58"



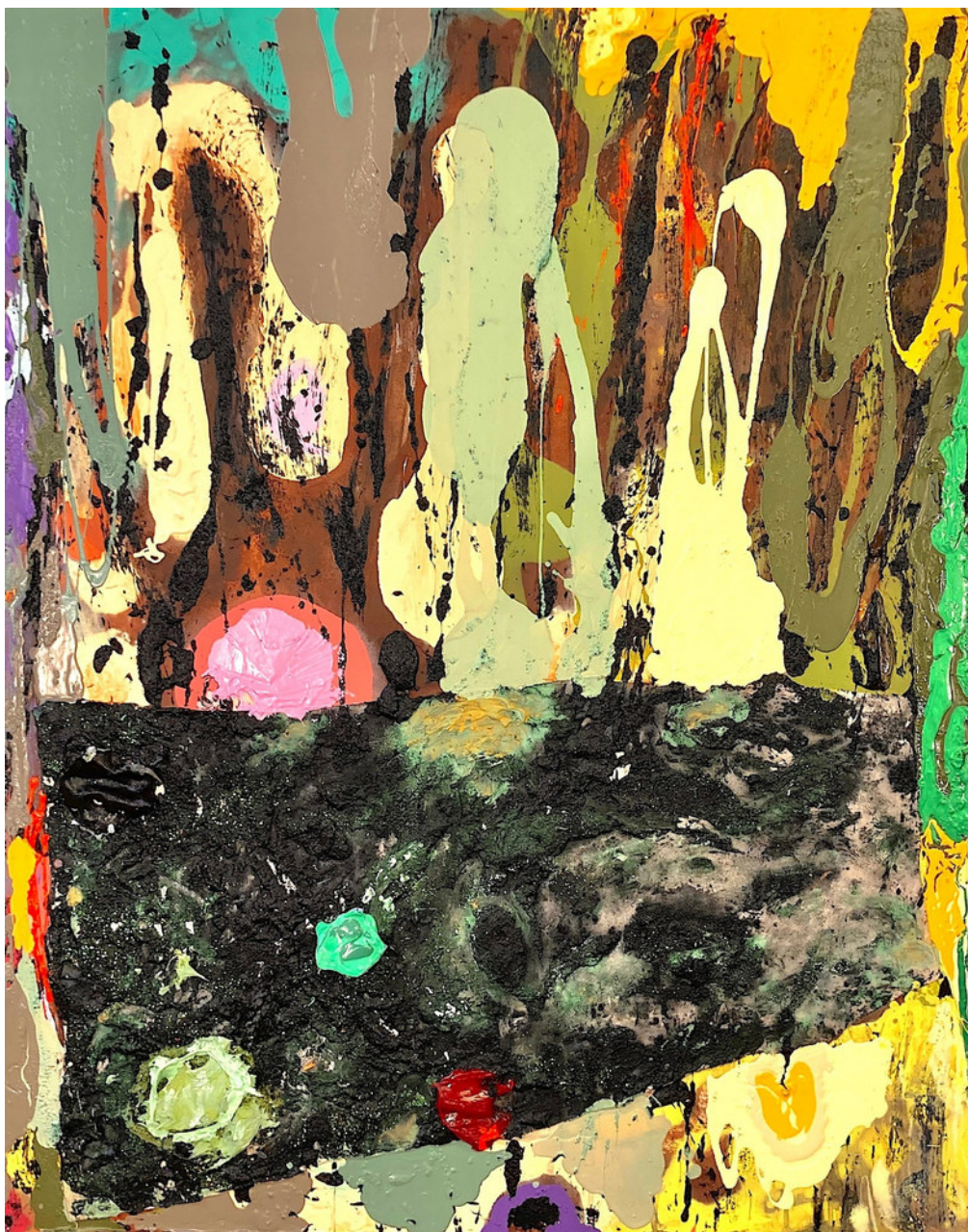
Fire and Ice, 2025, acrylic and collage on canvas, 22 x 30"



Aurora, 2024, acrylic and collage on canvas, 23 x 22.5"



Natures Way, 2024, acrylic and collage on canvas, 47 x 52.75"



Birth of Worlds, 2025, acrylic and collage on canvas, 58.5 x 46.25"



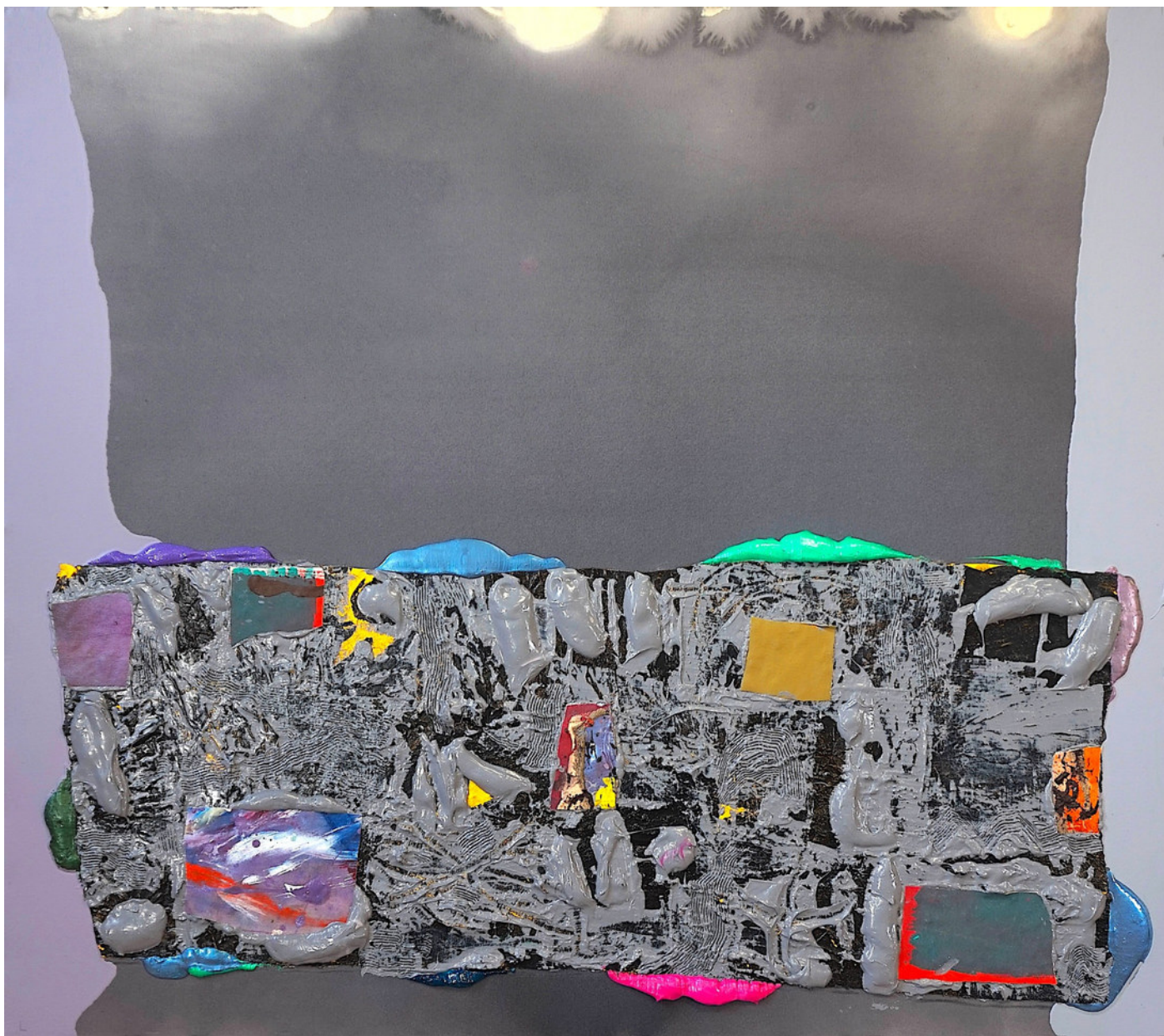
Spring Rain, 2025, acrylic and collage on canvas, 45 x 68"



Sargasso, 2025, acrylic and collage on canvas, 46.25 x 57.75"



Voice Lesson, 2025, acrylic and collage on canvas, 46 x 52 1/2"



Fog Light, 2025, acrylic and collage on canvas, 46.5 x 52.5"



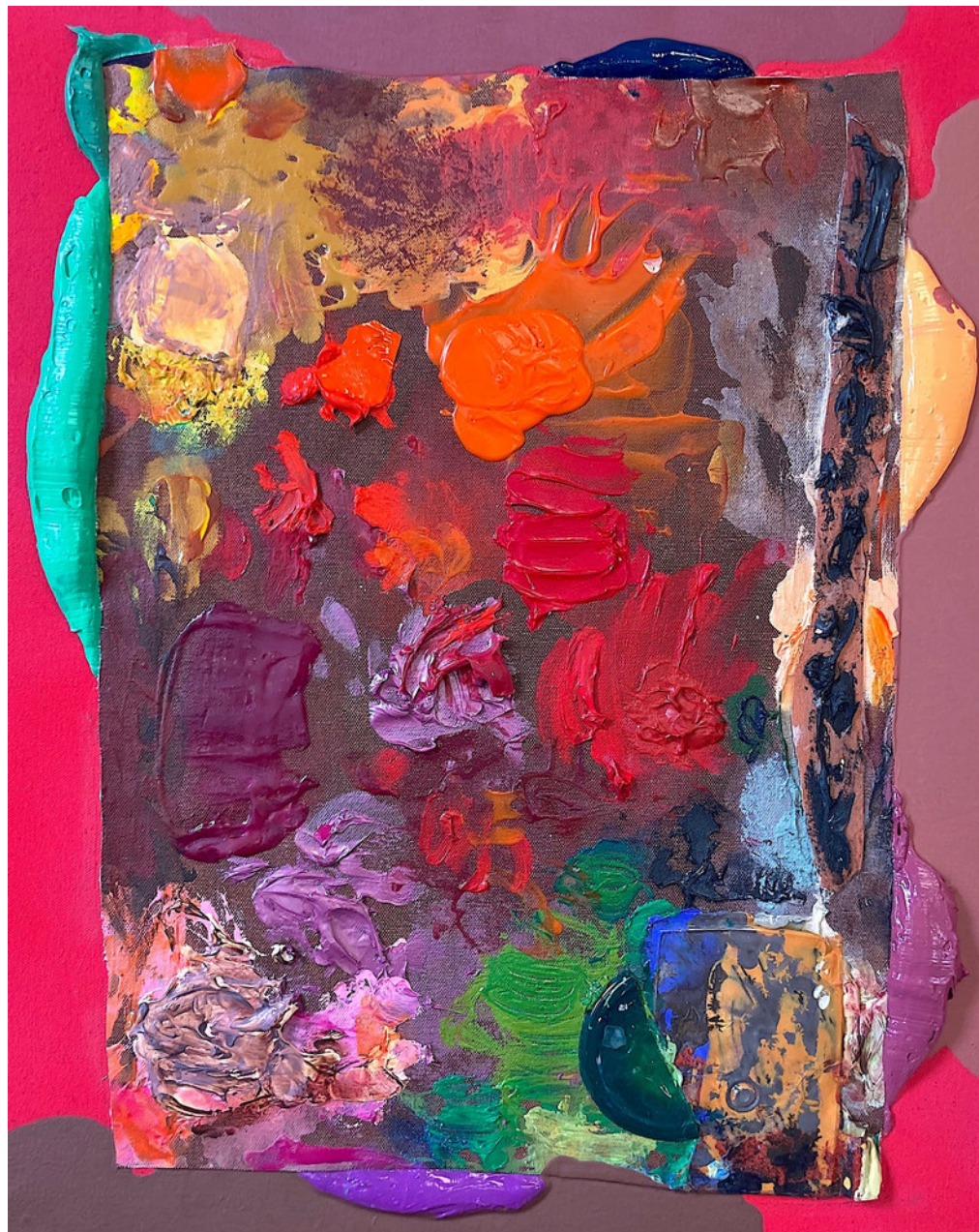
First Light, 2025, acrylic and collage on canvas, 46.5 x 55.5"



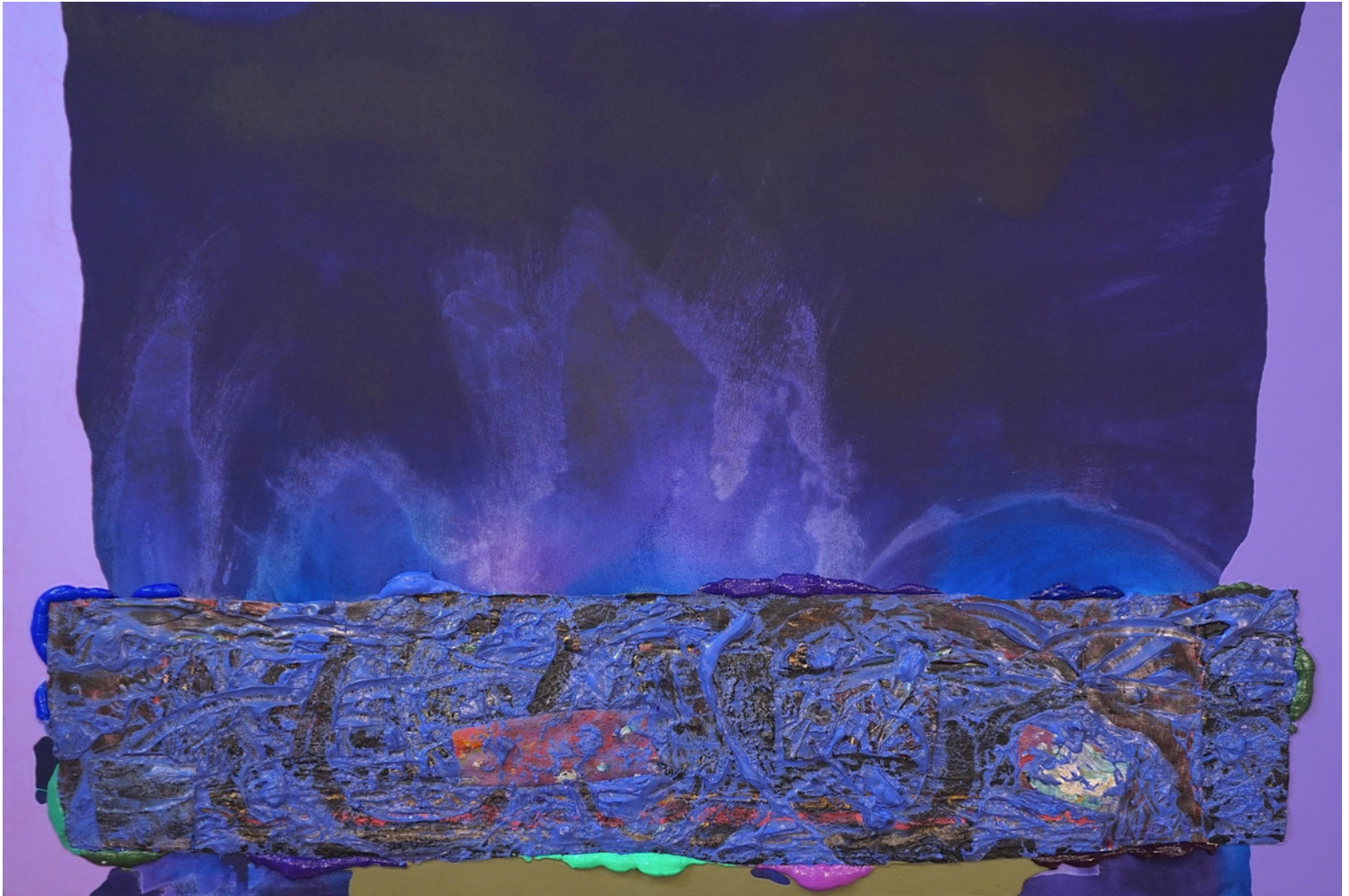
Awen, 2025, acrylic and collage on canvas, 46 x 54.5"



Paprika Plain, 2025, acrylic and collage on canvas, 30.5 x 58.5"



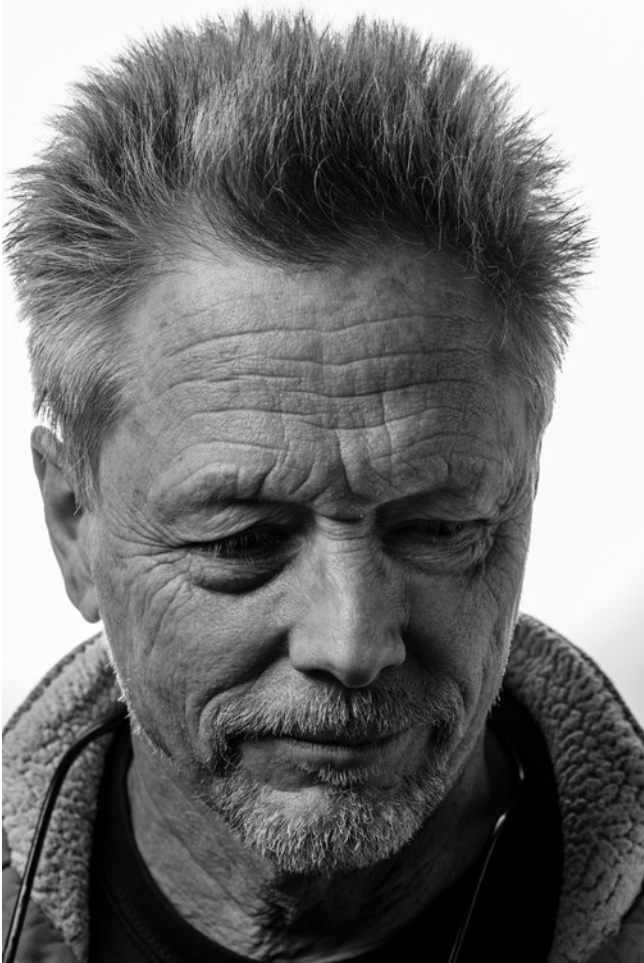
Herati, 2025, acrylic and collage on canvas, 22.25 x 18"



Vastness of Night, 2025, acrylic and collage on canvas, 44.75 x 66.75"



Ember, 2025, acrylic and collage on canvas, 48 x 67.5"



Cover: Ember, 2025, acrylic and collage on canvas, 48 x 67.5"

For more information about the artist: scottbennettart.com

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Cover: *Ember*, 2025, acrylic and collage on canvas, 48 x 67.5"