

## **BETWEEN SOMETHING AND NOTHING**

**ALEX BECERRA  
VARDA CAIVANO  
CHARLES GARABEDIAN  
RICHARD HAWKINS  
ROGER HERMAN  
RAOUL DE KEYSER  
PER KIRKEBY  
REBECCA MORRIS  
JOSH SMITH  
HENRY TAYLOR  
JOHN VIRTUE  
JOHN WILLIAMS**

**OCTOBER 22 – DECEMBER 8, 2016**

Opening reception is Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 5 to 7pm.

Featured in this exhibition at Richard T elles is a multi-generational group of painters who embrace a paradoxically rigorous approach to the casual, loose, and improvisational. Each artist operates at points between (the fictive boundaries of) figuration and abstraction, applying paint with various degrees of density, liquidity, restraint, and bravura. They all have refrained from “finishing” their pictures in the conventional sense, aware that to “finish” a picture is to kill it. Instead they have drawn from an internalized vocabulary, shaping images instinctively over many iterations and/or layers—but ultimately through many paintings. They invite us to project into and off their surfaces and cryptic references, rather than make images for our quick digestion.

Each artist’s method of execution betrays hints of a contradiction: brushstrokes that appear to be “cursory” carries with it the specter of its affectation. Whether each painter is reciting a brushstroke by rote or experimentation, he or she has refined a vision that has gradually morphed over time, even occasionally undermining it to make new discoveries. This exhibition surveys the various ways painters explore structurally open-ended, yet cohesive practices without prescription, alternating between material / pictorial obstinance and generosity.