

Gabriel Rojas

Instagram: @gabrielrojasart

Artist Statement:

In my practice, I engage with archives and traditions of abstraction which include not only Western Modernist painting but also Andean textile designs. These designs are a way for me to connect with an ancestral tradition, specifically of the Inca civilization. Lost through colonization, I believe in the power of reclaiming these symbols in an intuitive way to reveal their new potential. Along with my piece in the show titled "Mama y Papa", I hope to present pieces that demonstrate an inherent need to hybridize, to form a language that is familiar yet unreadable. I hope they speak to a need for belonging, a familial need, and a human need to connect with an ancestry that has been lost or out of reach.

Biography:

Gabriel Arturo Rojas is a visual artist and muralist from Tulsa, Oklahoma (born Argentina). Rojas received a BFA in Art from Oklahoma State University, and an MFA in Painting from Rhode Island School of Design, where he was inducted into the RISD Presidential Fellows class of 2021, the most prestigious honor for graduate students at RISD. Furthermore, he has attended residencies at institutions like Atlantic Center for the Arts and Fine Arts Work Center. Currently, Rojas is part-time faculty in the Art Department at The University of Rhode Island. Rojas' studio practice explores the relationship between memory processes and ritual through abstract painting.

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