

Jackie Saccoccio Could See Her Colorful Creations Flitting Down the Runway



Photo: Charles Benton

Jackie Saccoccio's paintings, flush with layers of glistening color, carry a distinct presence in time and space. With her use of color as a starting place, we spoke about her process, influences, and the potential for a fashion collaboration down the line.

Your compositions are all at once ethereal and vibrant. Can you give a little insight into your process?

I work with many different layers—a lot of times there are 50 layers in each painting. Different combinations of varnishes and turpentine create chemical reactions that produce these effects. I use mica [the shimmery mineral that makes granite sparkle] in the paintings, which gives them that hazy, glimmering quality.

Where does your inspiration for color originate?

A lot of the recent paintings are based on other portrait paintings. In the last show at Eleven Rivington, they ranged from Mannerist portraits to Chuck Close paintings. I'll look at these paintings and take notes on the color and then try to reinvent the presence that they communicate to me. I try to make that my own language

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Your obliteration of the grid conveys a certain attitude toward space and time. Can you speak to that?

In a static object, like a painting, I am trying to communicate this idea of impermanence. I use varnishes, mica, and other mediums that will look completely different when you walk to the right of the paintings, as opposed to standing in front of a painting. In a way, it's an effect to make a static object seem like it's moving.

What is your attitude toward blending the worlds of art and fashion? Would you ever consider collaborating with a designer?

I haven't given it much thought, but I think that could be really cool. Fashion and art, to me, are always bouncing off one another. A lot of the patterns that you see seem like they've been taken from looking at paintings. Also the shapes, like the capes Fendi is doing, seem like minimalist sculptures. I think that between film, fashion, art, and architecture, there is always a back and forth.

Are there any designers that come to mind that you would love to work with?

There are so many designers out there I don't feel like I am a super fan of just one. I do love Marc Jacobs and Marni.

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How would you describe your personal style?

I dress to be in the background. My personal style is kind of sedate and quiet. It's pretty straightforward—grey and black and some cool shoes.

What are your thoughts on social media, such as Instagram?

Yes, I love it. There are so many people that post art and architecture daily. People have these amazing visions of their worlds, which can be completely different than mine. I love @davidrimanelli; I look forward to his posts every day.