

## Justin Ogilvie

### *Spectral Bodies in Three Acts*

March 3–29, 2025

Reception: Saturday March 8, 2–4pm



*Lavender Days*, 2015; 33x26 in.



*A View for a Trip's End*, 2018/23; 72x60 in.



*Theatre of Aporia*, 2025; 84x60 in.

***Spectral Bodies in Three Acts*** traces the evolution of the *Wanderer* archetype, a figure shaped by romantic longing, existential resistance, and philosophical inquiry. Unfolding over the span of ten years and three distinct acts, the figure fragments and morphs, seeking solitude and connection—an eternal hope in an age of distracted hyper-connectivity. Each painting serves as a stage where figuration and abstraction perform as both acts of becoming and spaces for reflection, embodying presence and absence as the wanderer searches for meaning in a fractured world.

**Act I – Apparitions of Nostalgia (2015–2018):** The wanderer retreats into nature, a space of solitude, turning away from the urban, digital environment. Using a muted palette and traditional mimesis, these works evoke nostalgia and longing for refuge—a temporary escape before the inevitable return.

**Act II – Fractured Artifacts (2018–2022):** The figure fragments and becomes a scaffolding for abstraction, dissolving into traces resembling artifacts. These works explore disintegration, confronting loss and alienation, while searching for meaning in the ruins, piecing together fragments to form new connections.

**Act III – Spectral Synthesis (2022–2025):** Figuration and abstraction synthesize precariously as the figure emerges as a spectral body. Bright colours and gestural marks signal hope, suggesting that fractures can transform into spaces of renewal.

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Justin Ogilvie (MFA) is a Vancouver based artist. His practice examines various rifts between traditional and contemporary modes of painting, weaving together pictorial explorations that hover between figuration & abstraction. He received a MFA from the University of Alberta, and a BFA from Emily Carr University of Art and Design. A devoted educator since 2000, Ogilvie teaches privately and publicly (ECUAD, University of Alberta, Red Deer College, Vancouver Film School). In 2019, he co-founded 'Canvas Method', a Vancouver based art school with in-person & online classes, as well as mentoring programs for aspiring artists.

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