

Spread It On

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Opening reception
Friday October 18, 2013
7–10 pm

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When I talk to abstract painters about their work they generally don't like to summarize. Language is a poor vessel for articulating visual abstraction. Somehow the words feel labored, like trying to describe a basic concept to someone when they should just get it. And after metaphor, what are we left with besides a description of what it looks like based on things we have already seen? We lean on poetic devices, grasping for manifestations of language willing to accommodate the subtleties and nuance associated with abstraction. But this is old news. We get it, it's tricky. What we're concerned with now is sincerity. Every painting is weighed against every painting that everyone has ever seen. You register a gesture. A recognizable motif. A record of intention. Does it fit with what you know? Does it feel like it was always there? Is it believable?