

March 4, 2021

GARY PEARSON *THE JOURNAL: SELECTED WORKS*
Exhibition dates: March 4 - April 3, 2021.



Gary Pearson, *The Journal*, oil on canvas, 46 x 42 inches.

Gallery Jones is pleased to present an exhibition of work by Canadian artist Gary Pearson, titled *The Journal: Selected Works*. The exhibition features paintings on canvas and paper completed during 2020, as well as several from recent years. As we emerge into Spring and can visualize a life beyond the pandemic year, Pearson's paintings speak uniquely to a communal desire to navigate between our internal and external lives. For over fifteen years Pearson has been using imagery of bubbles, envelopes or auras to isolate characters within a scene. The resulting concise compositional tension draws a line between the character's stories and their physical context, a line across which the narrative can play.

The painting titled "The Journal" (2019), from which the exhibition title is derived, is a good example of this enduring interest of Pearson's. The calm, contemplative and introspective nature of the character in the painting is given a fuller story by the implied social environment he is in. The meeting of the internal world (embodied by the journal) and the external world (the bistro where the writer sits) is a boundary whose delineation we are constantly creating.

While the majority of the works in *The Journal: Selected Works* are mid-size canvasses, and feature the human subject as the principal motif, we are delighted to include the large landscape painting "The Bird Fountain" (2015), one of the four canvasses and multiple paper works from Pearson's *Fountain Series*. This large-scale painting is a wonderful example of how Pearson uses elements in our environment to further the human narrative.