

## **MEKIA MACHINE**

The Witnesses

2020 - 2022

### Series Statement:

The Witnesses is a four-painting series created between March 8 and April 20 of 2021— the four-week trial of Derek Chauvin, the Minneapolis police officer who murdered George Floyd on May 25, 2020. The four days following George Floyd's death seethed with people around the globe demanding the arrest of the four officers involved. Though the police quickly escalated their violence to degrees of true military force, the protestors did not relent. Chauvin was finally arrested and charged on May 29, 2020. I strive to document the implications of lived experiences with my work. This trial, streamed internationally, was a catalyst for re-traumatizing all who witnessed the murder, in person or otherwise. During this trial, I saw the emotions resurfacing in me on the faces and in the bodies of the witnesses at the trial. I saw the emotions in people's videos on social media. I saw the emotions in my neighbors. By mining my personal memory as well as the news's memory regarding the socio-political and racial distress of 2020 and through a formal use of line, gestural figures, and composition, The Witnesses serves as a snapshot of a generation's collective suffering, disquiet, anxiety, and rage.



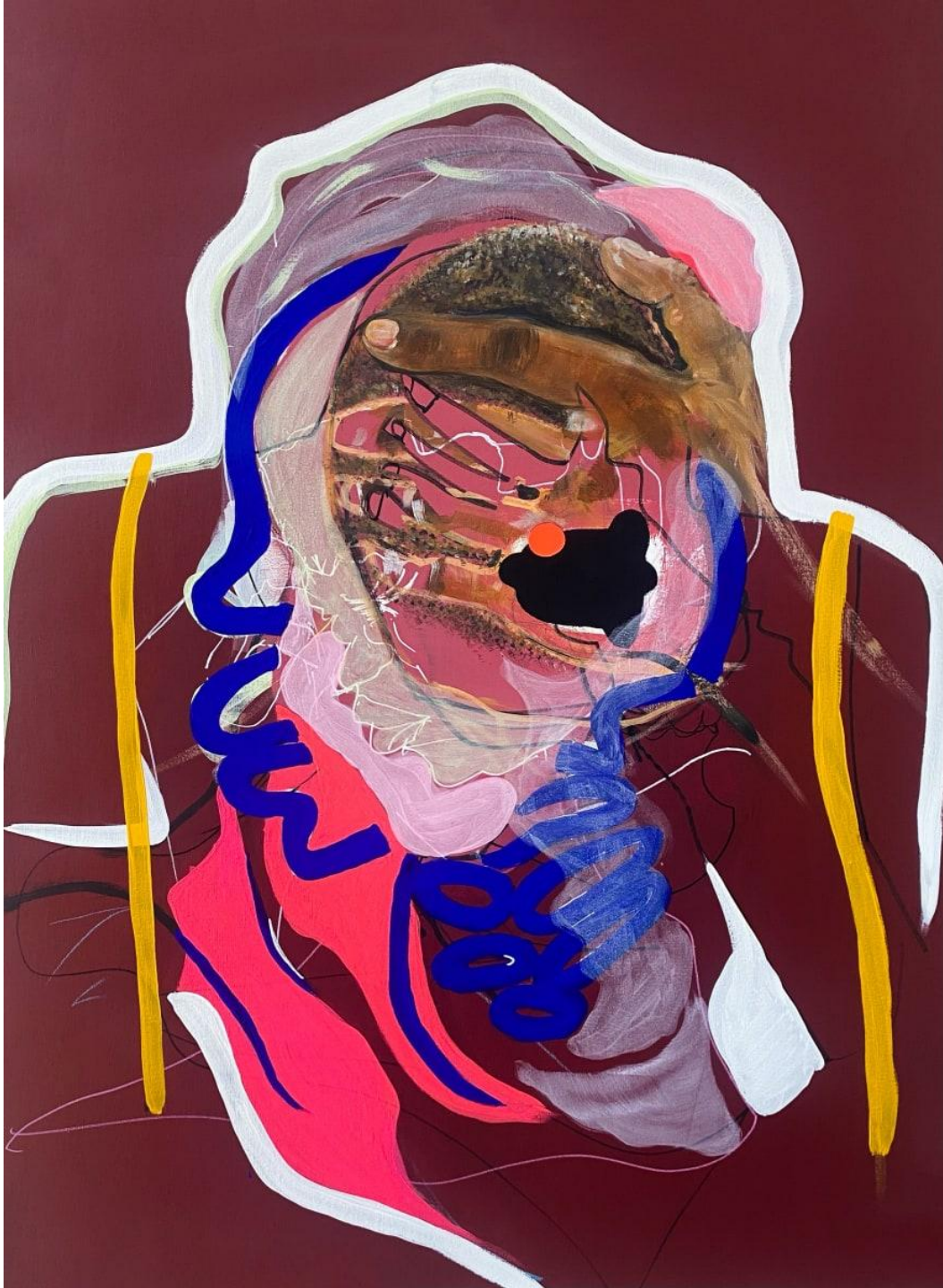
The Witnesses, No. 1 of 4

Pen, Acrylic Gouache & Acrylic On Canvas

40 x 30 x 1.5 in

2021

SOLD



The Witnesses, No. 2 of 4

Pen, Acrylic Gouache & Acrylic On Canvas

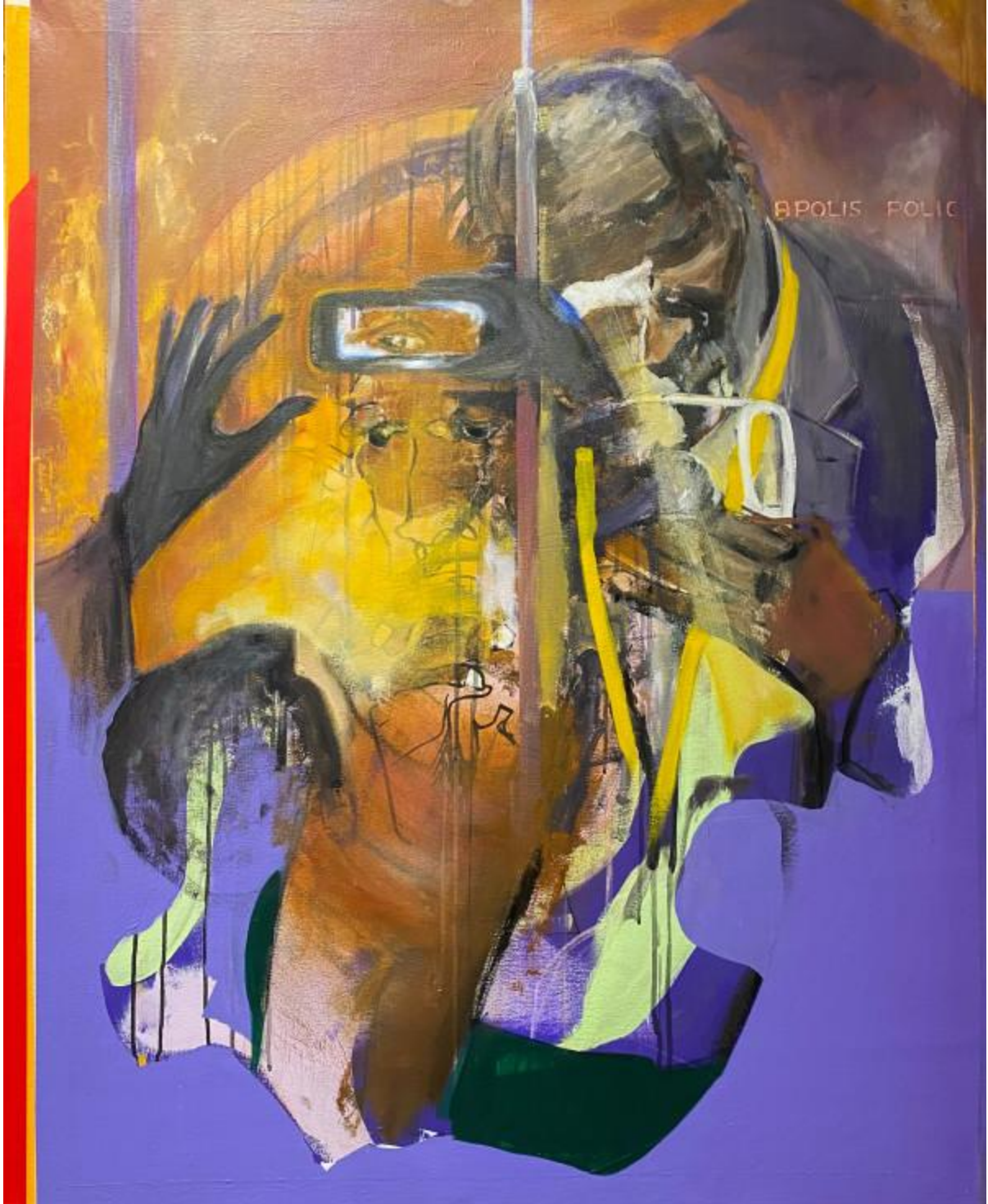
40 x 30 x 1.5 in

2021

SOLD



The Witnesses, No. 3 of 4  
Pen, Acrylic Gouache & Acrylic On Canvas  
40 x 30 x 1.5 in  
2021  
SOLD



The Witnesses, No. 4 of 4

Pen, Acrylic Gouache & Acrylic On Canvas

42 x 34 x 1.5 in

2022

AVAILABLE