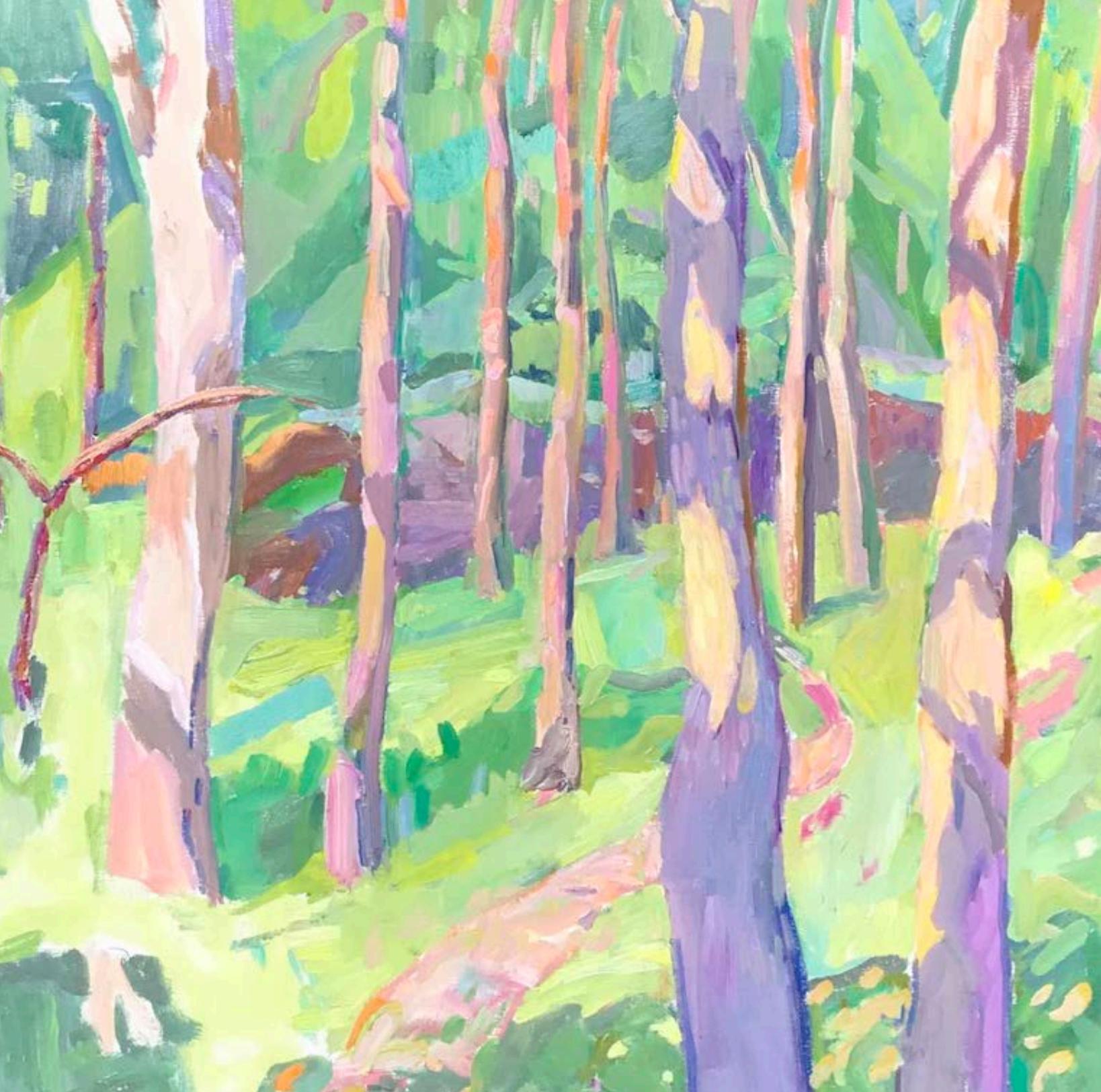


GREENING

KELLY CARMODY

2023





KELLY CARMODY



Scan to see Kelly Carmody's most recent works.



26 Main street, Sag Harbor New York
631-725-8469
www.grenninggallery.com

In the depths of the pandemic, Laura Grenning got a call from classical portrait artist Kelly Carmody to come to her studio. This was an unusual request for the time—when everyone was still hunkering down in their homes. But the accomplished painter was no longer envisioning grand 19th century portraits—the ones she had mastered under her teacher Numael Pulido and made a good living on her entire adult life. Instead, Carmody was painting brighter, looser, and more dynamic compositions—scenes that captured a vibrant life in motion rather than staccato moments of figures and objects heavy with meaning. The change might seem drastic to the casual observer, but Carmody has always been more interested in the forms and light effects that make up a composition than any grand narrative that can be read into it.

As far back as ten years ago Carmody was expressing the urge to depict something fresh in an otherwise predictable format. In a 2015 essay about Carmody’s work entitled “Kelly Carmody: Deeper Sense,” art historian Katherine French wrote that “her virtuosic handling of paint is quietly gestural; her images are not only intelligently composed, but also exquisitely sensitive to light. Working in a realist mode, she successfully re-interprets 19th century portraiture and still-life for contemporary audiences in ways that are fresh, original and absolutely sincere.” This is partic-

ularly noticeable in a 2018 painting entitled *Raspberries* (p 7). The small child sits at a table, gazing at the viewer as she pops a raspberry into her mouth from the bountiful supply in the dish beside her. Carmody’s strong classical technique still dominates the foreground of the canvas, but the visible brushstrokes, particularly noticeable on the child’s skin and dress enliven the canvas. Carmody seems to be asking in this moment, “what would happen if I indicated a highlight with just one stroke?” The answer is an animated canvas, buzzing with the movements of people and shifts of light. In the background of the image, light and shadow almost by themselves create the form of the stove behind the child. We also start to see Carmody shifting her palette from earthy Burnt Siena and Yellow Ochre to dreamy Cerulean Blue and Cadmium Red—these brighter colors signaling a new energy. Carmody is turning up the volume on the formal intrigue—the varied colors, intense shadows, interplay between flatness and depth—and turning down the volume on single light sources, posing subjects and studio backdrops. We can see her navigating away from the confines of genre painting, into fresher, freer fields.

Carmody, in her evolution, has enlivened her still lifes in addition to her figurative scenes. Her still lifes don’t seem to sit still. *Still life with Lemons* (p 47) is a particularly good ex-

ample of the subtle energy that permeates Carmody’s recent paintings. A table full of cups, pitchers and lemons look almost like characters engaged in conversation at a party. Two purple candles on the left lean into the composition, functioning to bring our eye back into the scene but also to lean into the action as if they were people trying to listen in on the conversations. The objects are not conspicuously living, but the highlights and shadows, bright and pastel colors, and the gestural brushstrokes create a buzz that reminds us that these objects and cut flowers will not forever be engulfed in such bright light, and in this particular state of being.

At its core, Carmody’s work carries an overall positive hum of a quiet life being lived, whether it’s a woman reading (*The Reader* p 21, *Seaside* p 39, *Sunny Morning* p 53, *Reading* p 57), or someone dozing (*Yellow Dress* p 15, *Viktor Sleeping* p 77), objects scattered on a table, or trees breezily shifting in the woods (*Summertime* p 18), there is a quality of unostentatious aliveness.

Katie Pepi, October 2023
Grenning Gallery
Sag Harbor, NY



Self-Portrait | 68 x 35 inches | Oil on linen | 2013



Forget Me Nots
13 x 11.5 inches | Oil on linen | 2018



Raspberries
16 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2018





Getting Ready
16 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2018



Paris Rooftops
20 x 24 inches | Oil on linen | 2019





Solitaire | 20 x 24 inches | Oil on linen | 2018



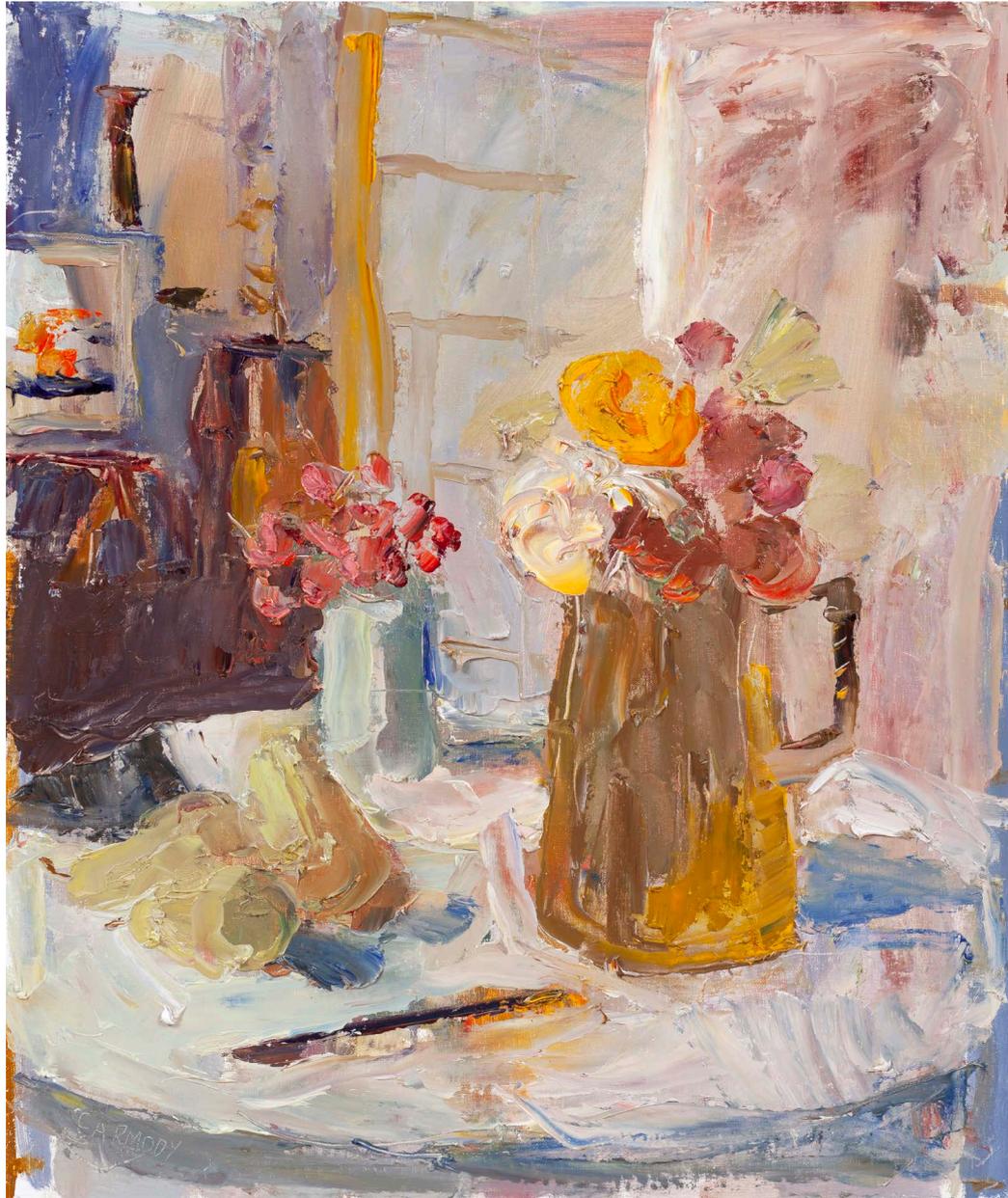


Card Playing
16 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2019

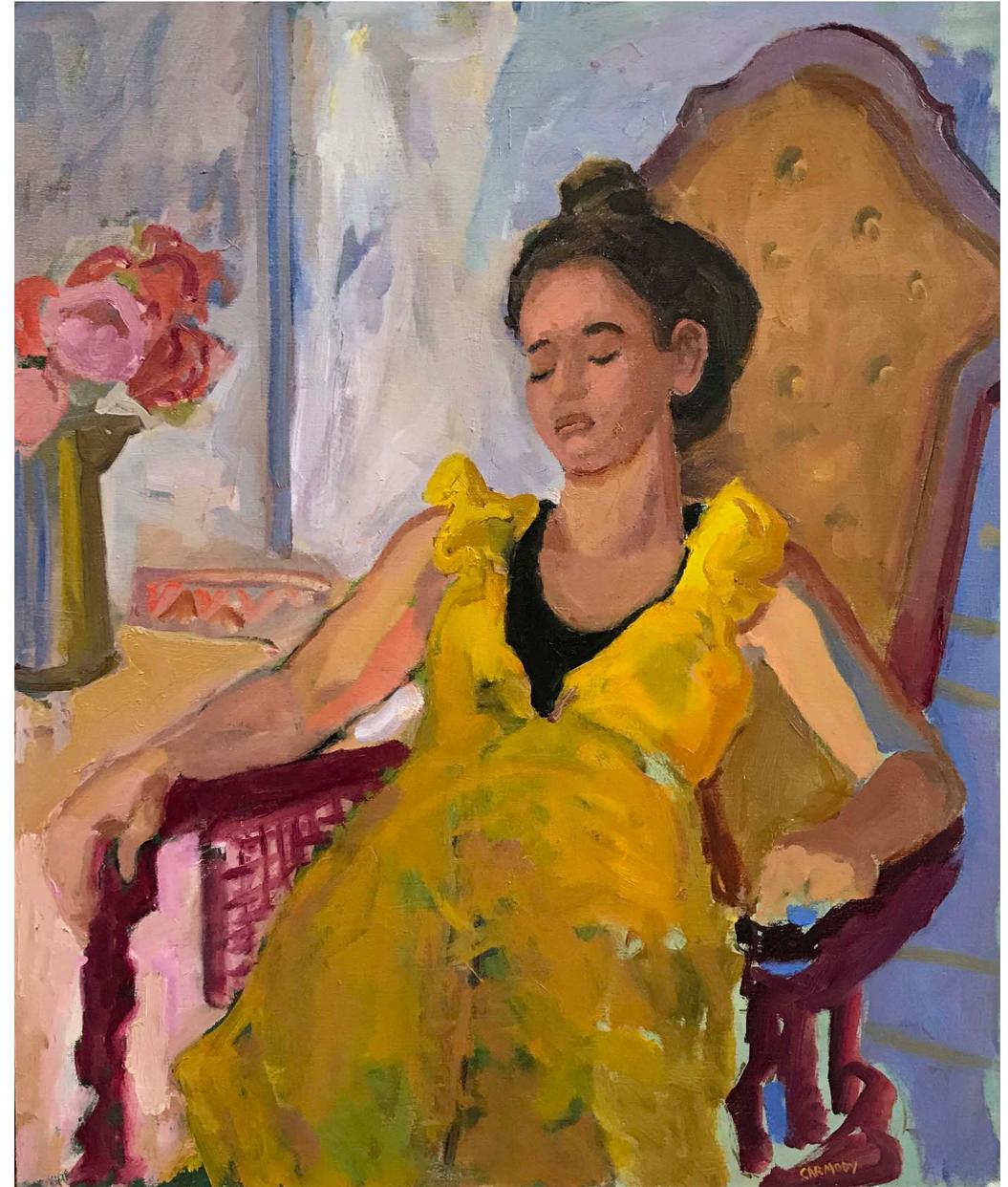


Calling Home
16 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2018





Studio Still Life
24 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2022

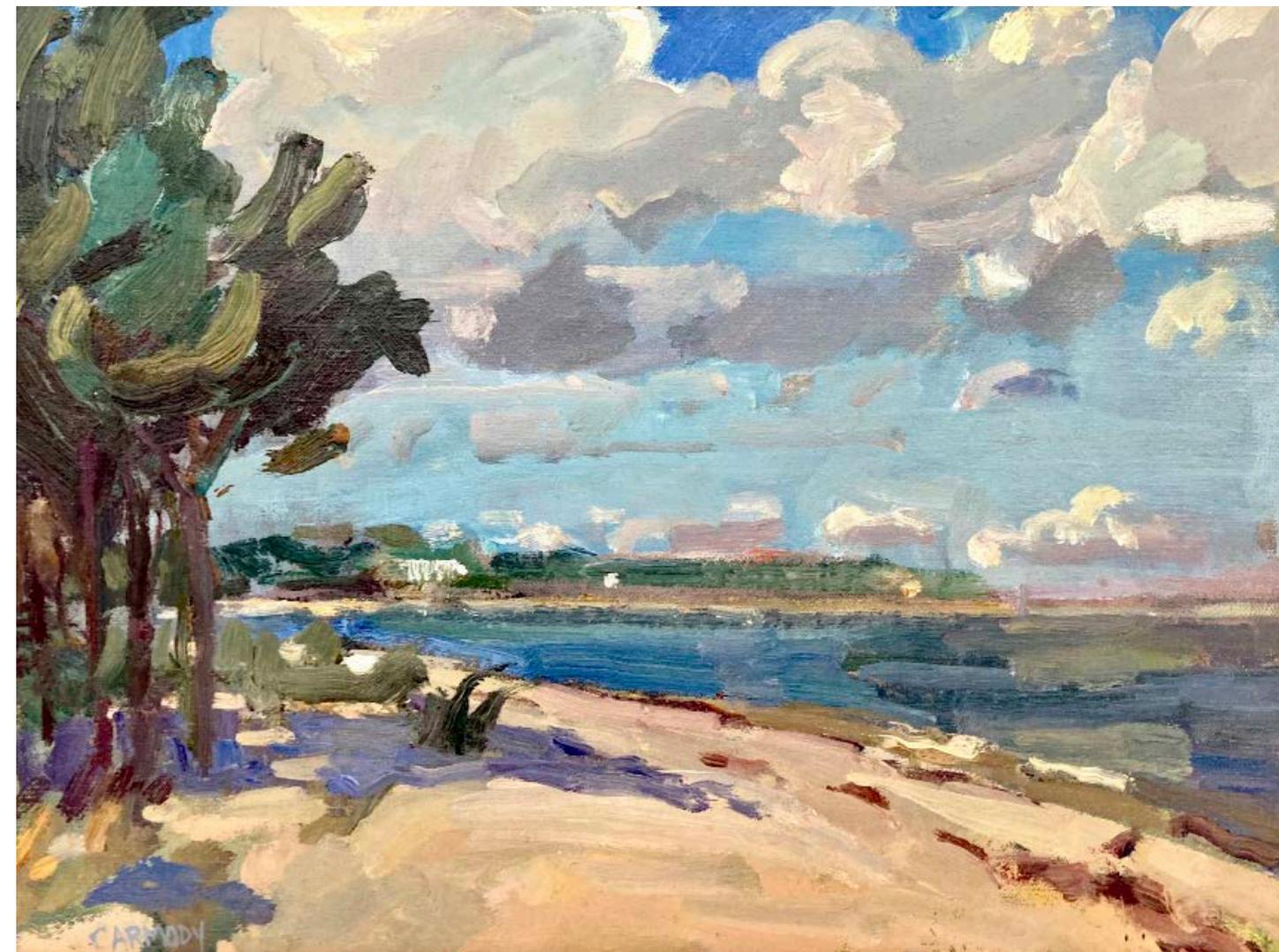


Yellow Dress
30 x 25 inches | Oil on linen | 2022





Wade's Beach, October
12 x 16 inches | Oil on linen | 2023



Hay Beach, Shelter Island
12 x 16 inches | Oil on linen | 2023



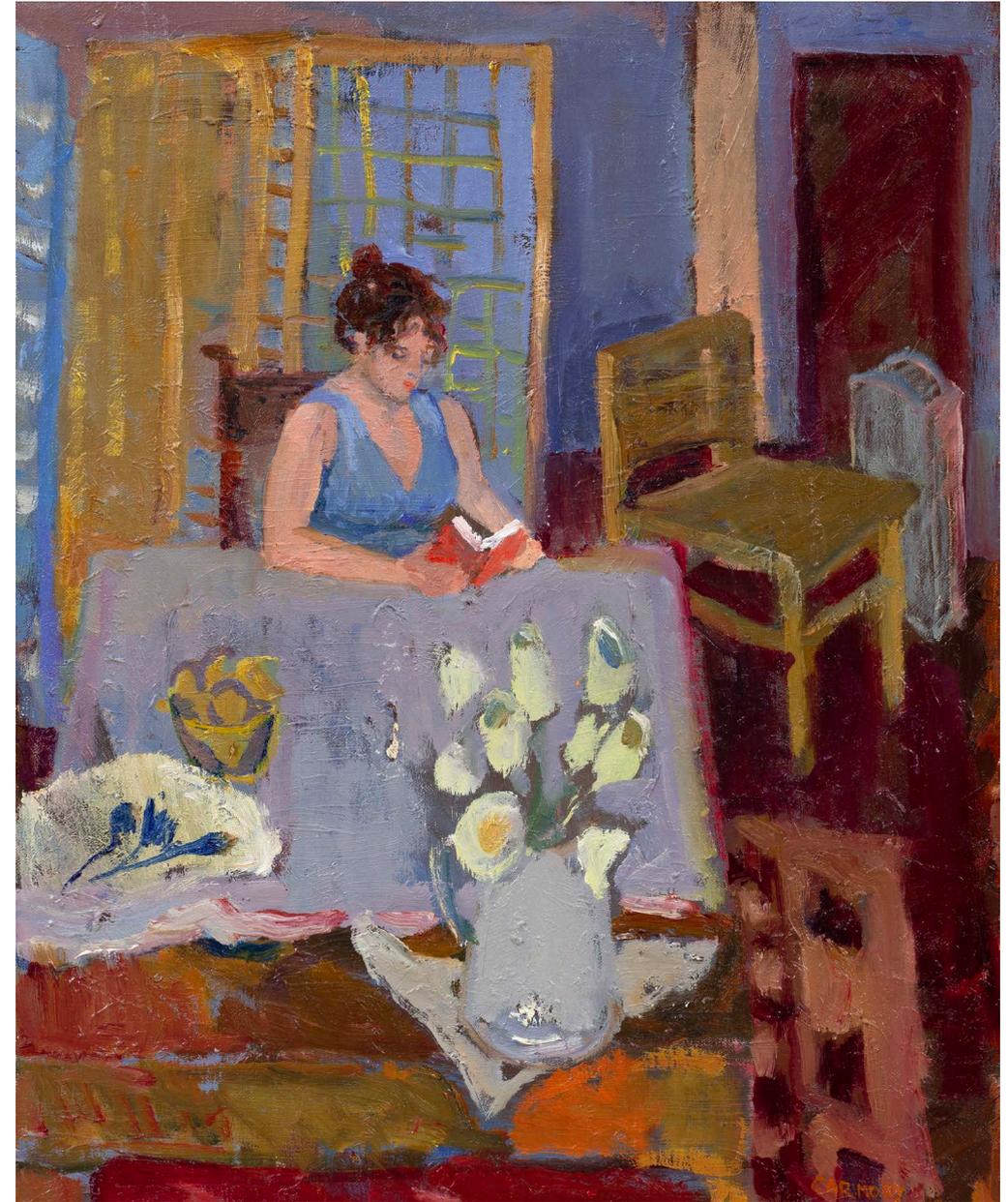
Summertime
30 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2022



I'll Send My Silver Nets Below
27 x 38.5 inches | Oil on linen | 2021



Sunny Window in the Mirror
16 x 12 inches | Oil on linen | 2020



The Reader
20 x 16 inches | Oil on linen | 2023



The Black Chair
25 x 28 inches | Oil on linen | 2022



Desert Trail
30 x 30 inches | Oil on linen | 2023



Include the Smell of Roses (After Gilies)
28 x 22 inches | Oil on linen | 2021



Still Life with Tulips
25 x 30 inches | Oil on linen | 2020





Cycle Still Life
25 x 30 inches | Oil on linen | 2023



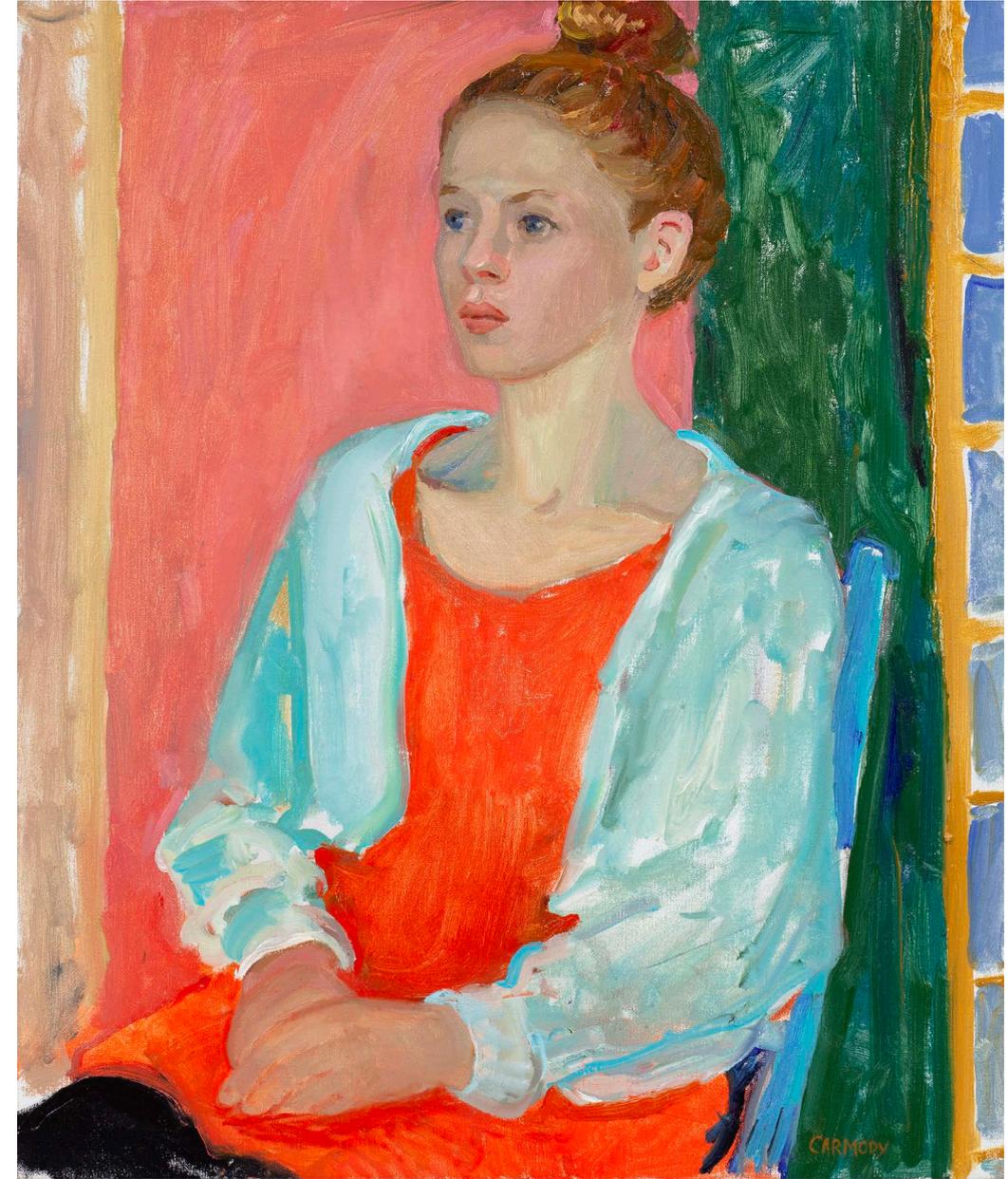
Kale Flowers
33 x 27 inches | Oil on linen | 2022



The Discussion | 27 x 38.5 inches | Oil on linen | 2022



Shining We Would Go
16 x 16 inches | Oil on linen | 2021



Girl in Red
24 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2023





May's Blossoms
16 x 16 inches | Oil on linen | 2021



Undulating Rivers of Rain
14 x 18 inches | Oil on linen | 2020



Pink Table
16 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2023



Still Life with Oranges
30 x 30 inches | Oil on linen | 2023



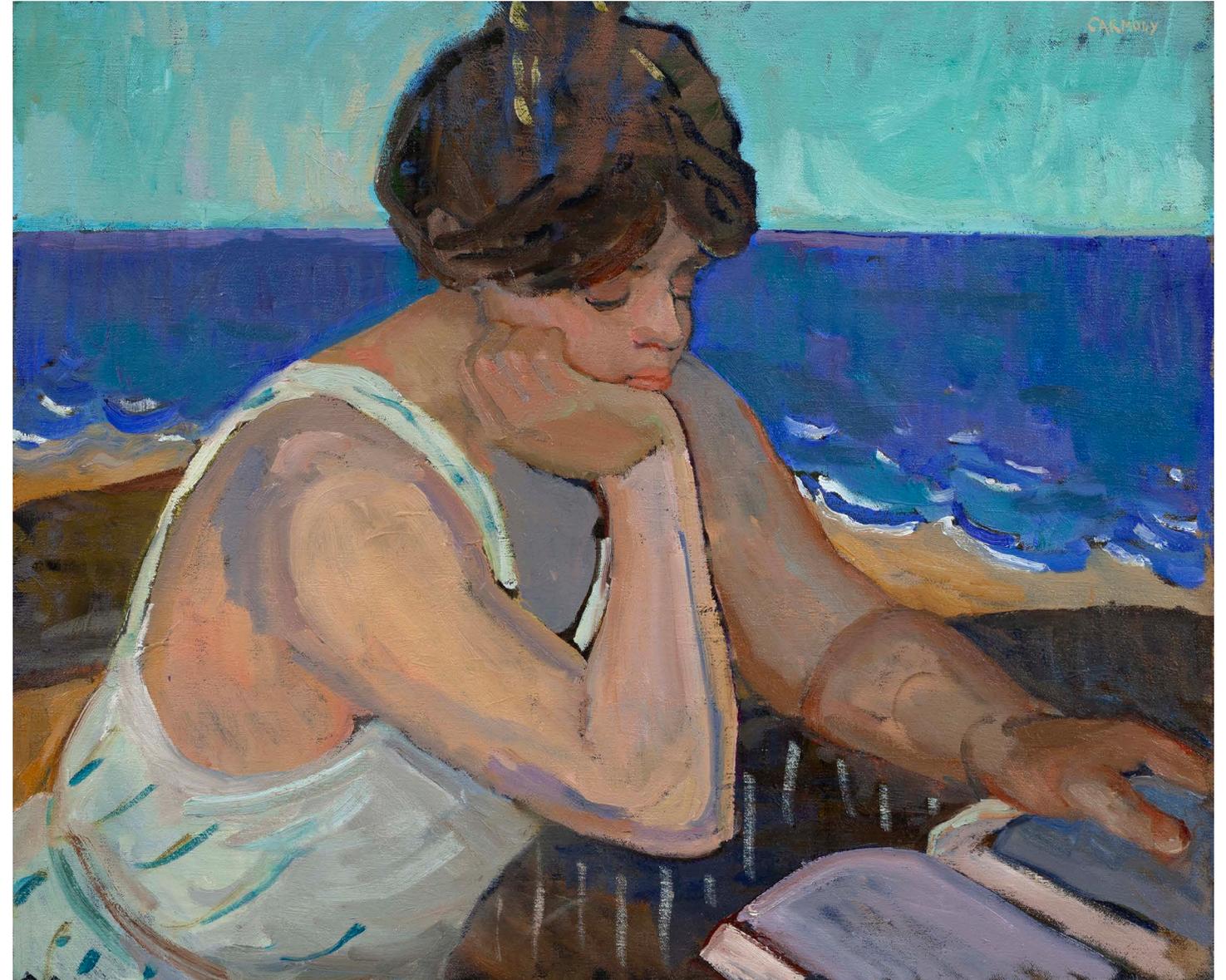
Anemones
24 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2021



The Striped Couch
18 x 24 inches | Oil on linen | 2022



Beach Roses
16 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2022



Seaside
20 x 24 inches | Oil on linen | 2022





Tulips with Fruit
24 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2021



3 Ladies
18 x 24 inches | Oil on linen | 2022



Secret Beach
14 x 18 inches | Oil on linen | 2019



Still Life with Polka Dots
28 x 22 inches | Oil on linen | 2023



Sketches for The Sun Queens
3 x 4 inches | oil pastel on paper | 2020



The Sun Queens
30 x 25 inches | Oil on linen | 2020



Hydrangeas
14 x 11 inches | Oil on linen | 2021



Still Life with Lemons
28 x 30 inches | Oil on linen | 2023





Robe of Red
16 x 16 inches | Oil on linen | 2021



Laughing from our Centers
30 x 33 inches | Oil on linen | 2021



Shelter Island Sun and Shade | 30 x 40 inches | Oil on linen | 2023



Beach Roses on the Balcony
20 x 16 inches | Oil on linen | 2022



Sunny Morning
24 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2022



American Hotel
11 x 14 inches | Oil on linen | 2021



A Simple Sail of Gray
24 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2021



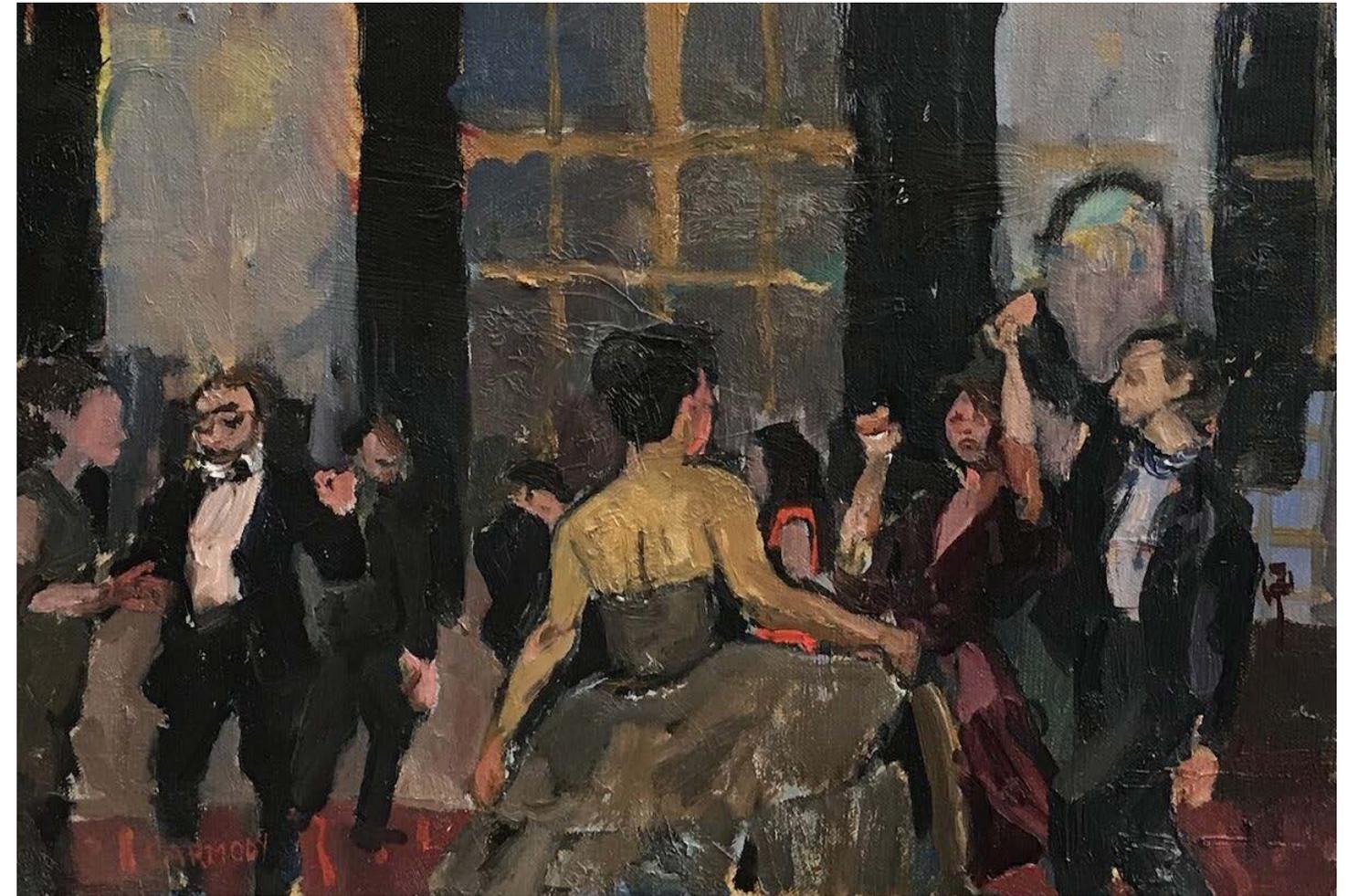
Shell Beach
10 x 14 inches | Oil on linen | 2022



Reading
20 x 16 inches | Oil on linen | 2023



Full Moon Over the Lake
14 x 18 inches | Oil on linen | 2019



Dancing for Days
10 x 14 inches | Oil on linen | 2022



You'll Never Know Till to Window You Go
16 x 12 inches | Oil on linen | 2020



Wildflower
20 x 16 inches | Oil on linen | 2023



Shelter Island Evening
11 x 14 inches | Oil on linen | 2023



Beneath Pale Bloom and April Snow
16 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2021

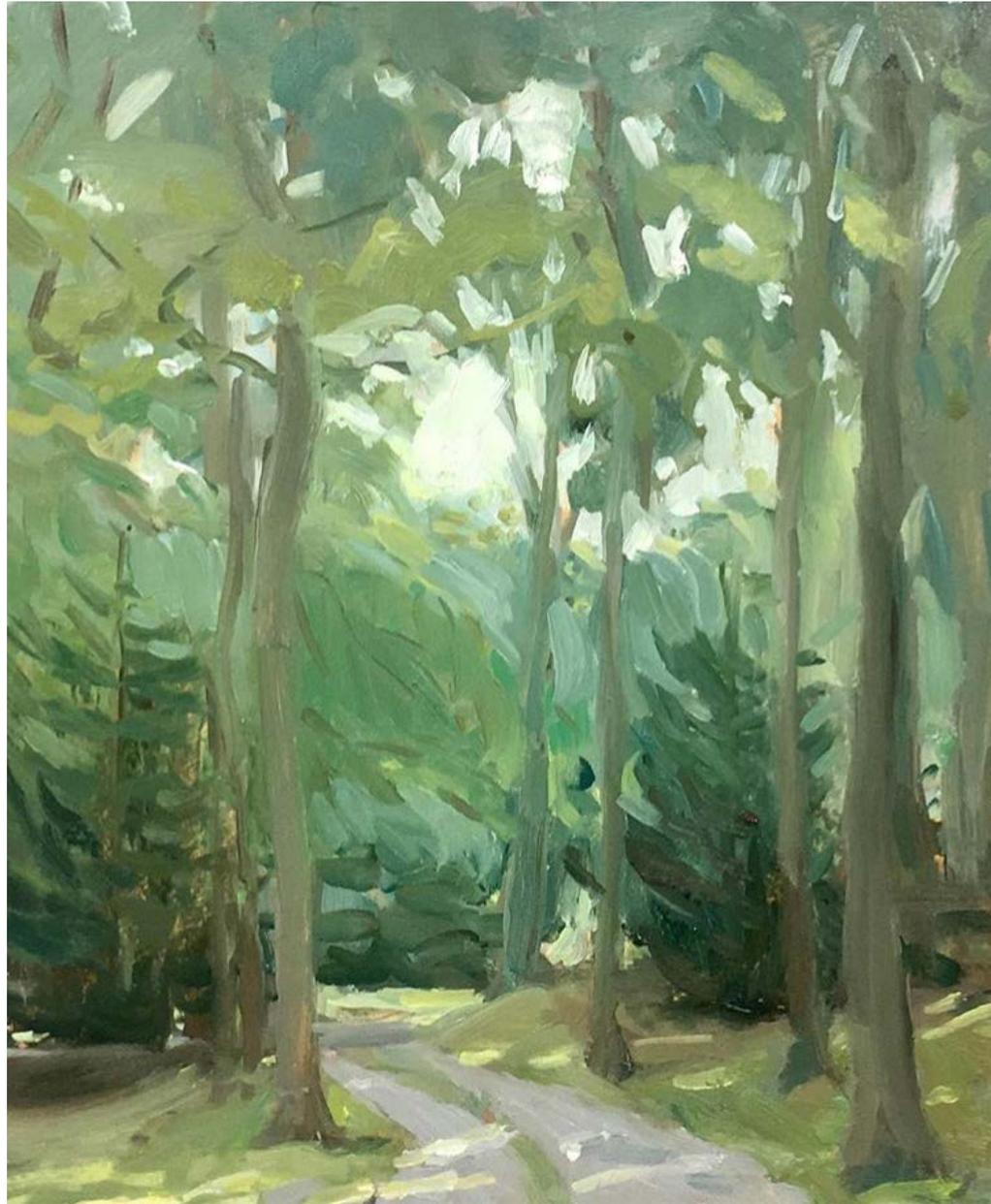


Freesias
16 x 16 inches | Oil on linen | 2021



Bolt of Blue
24 x 18 inches | Oil on linen | 2022





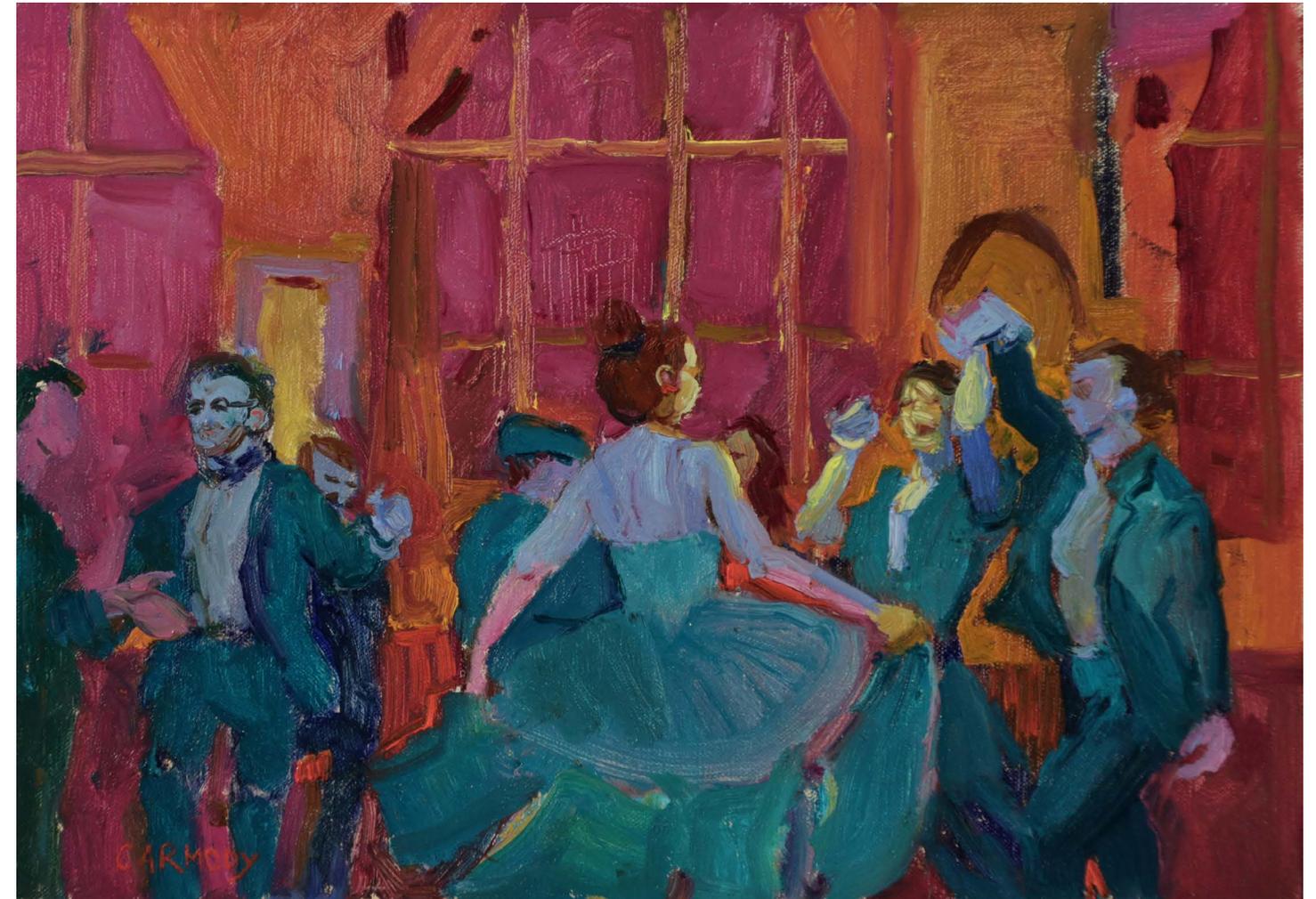
Shelter Island
8 x 10 inches | Oil on linen | 2018



Main Street, Sag Harbor
20 x 24 inches | Oil on linen | 2019



Ranunculus
16 x 16 inches | Oil on linen | 2021



Blue Dancers
10 x 14 inches | Oil on linen | 2022



Hay Rolls on Gibson Lane
12 x 16 inches | Oil on linen | 2019



Find Us in the Fields
20 x 16 inches | Oil on linen | 2020



Old Whalers Church, Nocturn
16 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2017



Old Whalers Church
16 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2017





Green Evening
10 x 14 inches | Oil on linen | 2022



At The Bar
11 x 14 inches | Oil on linen | 2021



Moonlight
14 x 18 inches | Oil on linen | YEAR



Sleeping Viktor
16 x 20 inches | Oil on linen | 2019



EDUCATION

2009-11 Art Students League, New York, NY

2002-04 Studio of Numael Pulido, Hancock, NH

1998-01 University of Massachusetts Boston, Bachelor of Arts, Boston, MA 1995-97 Massachusetts College of Art, Boston, MA

HONORS AND AWARDS

2022 North Shore Arts Award, The Guild of Boston Artists

2019 Newcomb Award for Traditional Painting , Rockport Art Association

2018 Charles Movali Award for Excellence in Painting awarded by the Guild of Boston Artists

2015 Colman Blanche Award
Edmund C. Tarbell Award, The Guild of Boston Artists Finalist for the Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition
Finalist for the BP Portrait Award

2014 3rd Place, The Art of the Portrait International Portrait Competition 2013 Finalist, Figurative Painting Competition, Art Renewal Center 2012 Finalist, Massachusetts Cultural Council Grant for Painting

2010 Merit Scholarship, Art Students League

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022 Sloane Merrill Gallery, Boston MA With All Things Ringing

2020 Sloane Merrill Gallery, Boston MA Summer Reflections

2018 Sloane Merrill Gallery, Boston MA New Work

2015 Walter Feldman Gallery, Kelly Carmody: Deeper Sense, Boston, MA
Sloane Merrill Gallery, Kelly Carmody: Evocations, Boston MA

2006 Newton Free Library, Portraits in Oil, Newton, MA

2005 Stel's, Fashionably Late: Oil Portraits by Kelly Carmody, Boston, MA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023 Grenning Gallery, Musings, Sag Harbor NY
Sloane Merrill Gallery, Paired Boston, MA
Customs House Museum, Still Life invitational, Clarksville TN

2022 Grenning Gallery, Candid Grandeur, Sag Harbor, NY Grenning Gallery, Life Saturated, Sag Harbor, NY

2021 Grenning Gallery, Americana, 2 Person show, NY

2019 Grenning Gallery, 3 Person Show, Sag Harbor, New York Guild of Boston Artists, Members Show, Boston, MA Grenning Gallery, Women in Painting, Sag Harbor , New York

2018 Grenning Gallery, Fresh Virtuosity, Sag Harbor , New York Guild of Boston Artists, Members Show, Boston, MA
Grenning Gallery, Russian-American Alliance, Sag Harbor, NY

2017 Grenning Gallery, Gems, Sag Harbor

2016 National Portrait Gallery, Outwin Boochever Exhibition, Washington D.C Salmagundi Club, American Masters 2016, New York, NY
Ann Long Fine Art, Stillness, Charleston, South Carolina

2015 National Portrait Gallery, BP Portrait Award Exhibition, London England The Guild of Boston Artists, Members Show, Boston, MA

2014 Ann Long Gallery, Hats, Headdresses and Turbans, Charleston, SC Sloane Merrill Gallery, New Faces, Boston, MA
Portrait Society of America, The Art of the Portrait, Reston, VA

2013 Art Students League, Grant Winners Exhibition, New York, NY Ann Long Gallery, Birds of a Feather, Charleston, SC
Sloane Merrill Gallery, Back to Back, Boston, MA
The Art Students League, Affordable Art Fair, New York, NY

2012 The Guild of Boston Artists, Annual Representational Painting Competition, Boston, MA

2011 Art Students League, Merit Scholarship Winners Exhibition, New York, NY

2008 The Guild of Boston Artists, Annual Representational Painting Competition, Boston, MA

2007 Cambridge Art Association, RED, Cambridge, MA



While the Winds Stand Still
20 x 24 inches | Oil on linen | 2021



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