

**Geoff McFetridge** *Us As A Landscape, Recent Figures for the Film My Blue Suit* 

**June 18 -July 24, 2021** Artist Talk: Friday July 16, 2021, Noon EST Zoom Meeting ID: 860 2313 6456

**COOPER COLE** is pleased to present *Us As A Landscape, Recent Figures for the Film My Blue Suit*, a solo exhibition of the work of artist Geoff McFetridge. This will be the debut exhibition at our new Cooper Cole West space at 1136 Dupont Street.

McFetridge's paintings, prints, and drawings are visual maps of the artist's ethos. Invested in the legibility of an image, McFetridge is interested in how images exist inbetween or outside of language, and in turn how this encourages more open-minded approaches to cognition. His works connect poetry and form, and slip between interpretations to connote the interconnectedness of people in public spaces.

This new series began with McFetridge's observations of people sitting and reclining in public spaces over the past year. According to the artist, the figures are both inspired by the landscape and landscapes unto themselves: the folds and shadows of their clothes intentionally mimic the folds of hills. Using his signature visual language of rounded shapes and slick lines, the artist depicts various people suspended in blank, ambiguous spaces. These flat, monochrome backgrounds are typical of McFetridge's work but read differently after months of isolation. While on the one hand they create a sense of introspection, on the other they speak to the simultaneity of our individual experiences, and their subsequent collectivity. In doing so, McFetridge points to the horizontality of people, and imagines a hopeful future.

According to the artist, his practice is a vocabulary of poetic thinking expressed in images. Much of McFetridge's painterly language comes from quick, observational gouache paintings made in his sketchbooks. From the first pencil study to the final painting, McFetridge's process is one of refining and simplifying. He begins by drawing shapes and bodies, and then thinks about how they can be used to create a dialogue with each other. To look at his studies and paintings is to witness a process of adjusting and fitting forms with one another visually and conceptually. McFetridge sees this as an almost mechanical process, whereby the components of his images are functional pieces that come together into something that is highly legible to a broad audience, though without a specific narrative.



**Geoff McFetridge** (b. 1971, Calgary, Alberta, Canada) McFetridge received his BFA from the Alberta College of Art and Design and his MFA from the California Institute of the Arts. McFetridge was part of the infamous *Beautiful Losers* exhibition which debuted in downtown New York in 1991 and went on to tour the world. He has continued to exhibit in international galleries including Blum and Poe, Los Angeles (2020); Cooper Cole, Toronto (2019); Half Gallery, New York (2018); V1 Gallery, Copenhagen (2016); PlayMountain, Tokyo (2013); and Heath Gallery, Los Angeles (2011). McFetridge has also been included in museum exhibitions at the Vancouver Art Gallery, the Santa Monica Museum of Art, the Walker Art Center, the Yale University Art Museum, and The Geffen Contemporary at MoCA Los Angeles. McFetridge currently lives and works in Los Angeles, California, USA.





Us as A Landscape, 2021 Acrylic on canvas 40 x 60 in (101.6 x 152.4 cm) G.McFetridge0114



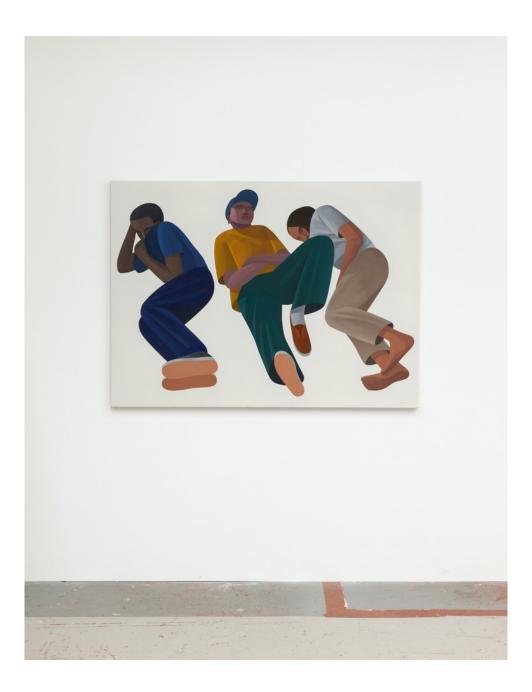






**Geoff McFetridge** In the Cracks of a Dream We See the Waking World, 2021 Acrylic on canvas 40 x 60 in (101.6 x 152.4 cm) G.McFetridge0115







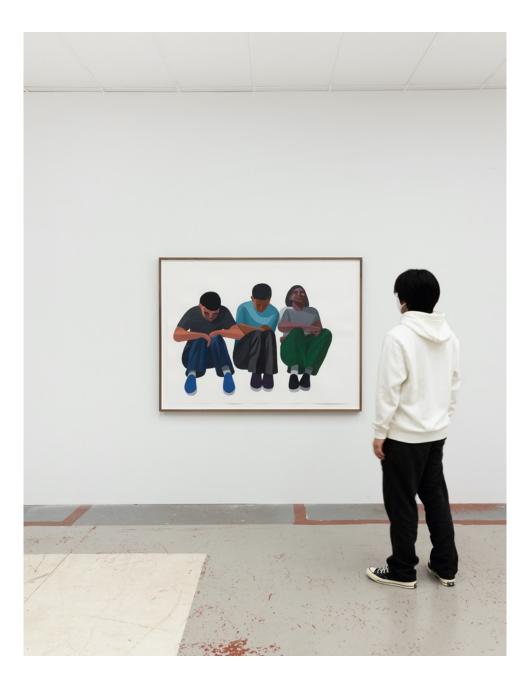


Stray Figures, 2021 Acrylic on paper 48 x 64 in (121.9 x 162.6 cm) G.McFetridge0116













Sleeping Landscape, 2021 Acrylic on paper 48 x 64 in (121.9 x 162.6 cm) G.McFetridge0117











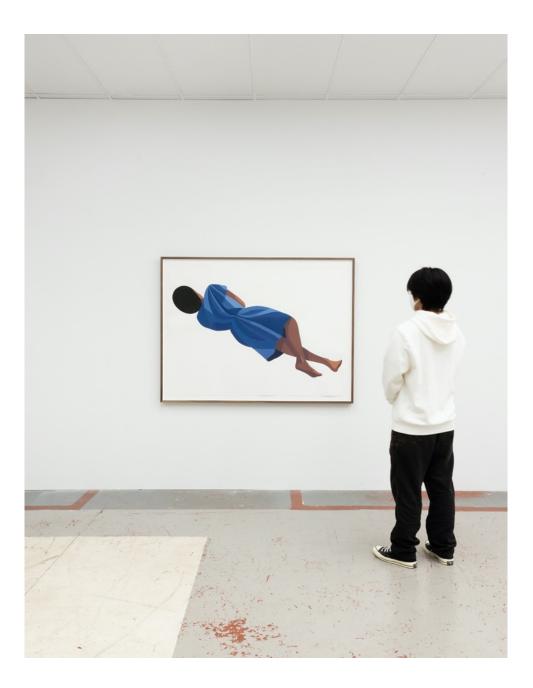


Exactly How I Saw Them, 2021 Acrylic on paper 48 x 64 in (121.9 x 162.6 cm) G.McFetridge0118













Looking Away, 2021 Acrylic on paper 64 x 48 in (162.6 x 121.9 cm) G.McFetridge0119











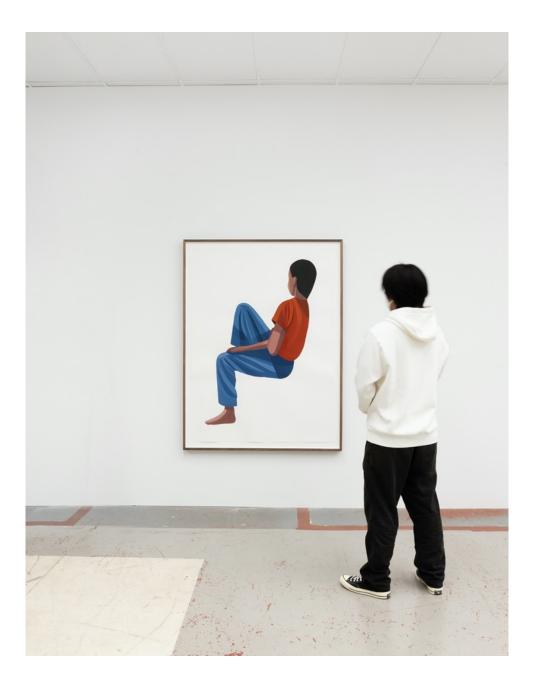


**Geoff McFetridge** A Passenger of the Landscape, 2021 Acrylic on paper 64 x 48 in (162.6 x 121.9 cm) G.McFetridge0120













My Blue Suit, 2021 Video animation 2min38 G.McFetridge0121





**Geoff McFetridge** 101 Freeway Thousand Oaks (Northbound), 2021 Acrylic on paper 14.75 x 31 in (37.5 x 78.7 cm) G.McFetridge0122





Moods Like a Zoetrope, 2021 Acrylic on paper 14.75 x 31 in (37.5 x 78.7 cm) G.McFetridge0123





Wilderness In His Eyes, 2021 Acrylic on paper 14.75 x 31 in (37.5 x 78.7 cm) G.McFetridge0124





Matt at Home, 2021 Acrylic on paper 10.75 x 12.5 in (27.3 x 31.8 cm) G.McFetridge0125





Will at Home, 2021 Acrylic on paper 10.75 x 12.5 in (27.3 x 31.8 cm) G.McFetridge0126





Study for Girl in Blue Suit, 2021 Acrylic on paper 10.75 x 12.5 in (27.3 x 31.8 cm) G.McFetridge0127

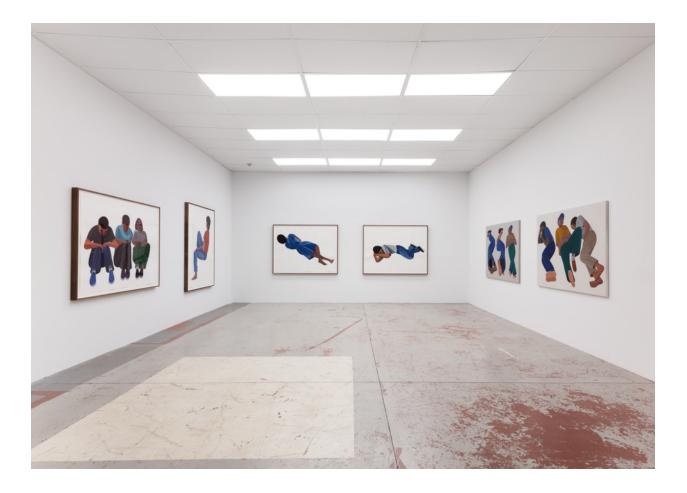


























Born 1971, Calgary, Alberta, Canada Lives and works in Los Angeles, California, USA

#### Education

1995 1993	MFA, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, USA BFA, Alberta College of Art and Design, Calgary, Canada
Solo and Two Person Exhibitions	
2020	These Days Are Nameless, V1 Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark
2019	Geoff McFetridge, Cooper Cole, Toronto, Canada
2018	The Boringians Half Gallery New York USA

- 2018 The Beringians, Half Gallery, New York, USA Coming Back is Half the Trip, V1 Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2017 Test For Positive Thinking, Rental Gallery, East Hampton, USA
- 2016 The Quiet Of Not Listening, V1 Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark
- It Looks Like It Says, Joshua Liner Gallery, New York, USA
  Meditallucination, V1 Gallery, Copenhagen
- 2013 *My Head Disappears When My Hands Are Thinking,* PlayMountain (in collaboration with Heath Ceramics), Tokyo, Japan
- 2012 *Floating*, COOPER COLE, Toronto, Canada *The Original Awesome*, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo University Gallery, San Luis Obispo, USA
- Around Us & Between Us, Ivory & Black SOHO, London, UK
  2011 Us as a Logo, V1 Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark
  My Head Disappears When My Hands Are Thinking, Heath Galle
  - *My Head Disappears When My Hands Are Thinking*, Heath Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 2010 The Westest, Half Gallery, New York, USA
- 2008 Bury Me In The Sand, Mollusk, San Francisco, USA In The Mind, Seattle Art Museum Olympic Sculpture Park PACCAR Pavilion, Seattle, USA
- 2007 *Bend the Void,* MU, Eindhoven, Netherlands
- 2006 That Line Rhymes, New Image Art Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 2005 All Smiles Have Teeth, Kemistry Gallery, London, UK
- 2004 *The Mind Trip: There & Black & New,* Nike Spirit Room, Berlin, Germany
- The Mind Trip: There & Black & New, AD21, Tokyo, Japan 2001 A Way of Life, Parco Gallery X, Tokyo, Japan A Way of Life 1, George's, Los Angeles, USA The Rock Machine, Colette, Paris, France
- 2000 The Rock Machine, Houston Gallery, Seattle, USA The Rock Machine, George's, Los Angeles, USA



## 1999 30 Days 30 Shows, George's, Los Angeles, USA

# Selected Group Exhibitions

2020	Sympathetic Magic, Blum & Poe, Los Angeles, USA
2016	Juxtapoz x Superflat, Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, Canada
2015	Incognito, Santa Monica Museum Of Art, Los Angeles, USA
2014	10 Year Anniversary Groop Show, Mollusk Surf Shop, Venice, USA Your Favorite Artist's Favorite Artist, Joshua Liner Gallery, New
2014	York, USA
2013	<i>Chicken or Beef?</i> , curated by Jesper Elg, The Hole, New York, USA
	Folklore, Joshua Liner Gallery, New York, USA
2011	Graphic Design: Now in Production, Walker Art Centre,
	Minneapolis, USA
	Graphic Design Worlds, La Triennale di Milano, Milan, Italy
	New Works, Heavyweight Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
	Art in the Streets, The Geffen Contemporary at MOCCA, Los
	Angeles, USA STATUS – Somewhere Between Position and Condition, V1 Gallery,
	Copenhagen, Denmark
2010	Summer Drawing Show, Family Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
	King Kong, Family Pop Up, New York, USA
	Wallworks, International Print Centre, New York, USA
	These Friends, THIS, Los Angeles, USA
	The Happening: Art, Film, and Music Festival, Bondi Pavilion,
	Sydney, Australia
	The Happening: Art, Film, and Music Festival, The Brisbane Zoo,
	Brisbane, Australia The Happening: Art, Film, and Music Festival, The Epsy,
	Melbourne, Australia
2008	<i>Two Lines Align,</i> Red Cat Gallery in Roy and Edna Disney/CalArts
2000	Theater, Los Angeles, USA
2007	California Design Biennial, Pasadena Museum of California Art,
	Pasadena, USA
2006	Making Do, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, USA
	1000 Things, Mu, Eindhoven, Netherlands
0005	Highmath, V1 Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark
2005	Sea Donkeys on Airplane Wings (People That Surf That Make
2004	Stuff), New Image Art Gallery, Los Angeles, USA Beautiful Losers: Contemporary Art & Street Culture, curated by
2007	Christian Strike and Aaron Rose, Contemporary Art Center,
	Cincinnati; Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco;
	Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach; The Moonshine



	Festival, The Surf Gallery, Laguna Beach; The Contemporary Art Museum, Baltimore; The University of South Florida Contemporary Art Museum, Tampa, USA; Fondazione La Triennale, Milan, Italy; Le Tri Postal, Lille, France; Muzeum Sztuki, Lodz, Poland; La Casa Encendida, Madrid, Spain; Arhus Kunstbygning, Denmark <i>The Moonshine Festival,</i> The Surf Gallery, Laguna Beach, USA
	Time Is a Map of Our Failures, Colette, Paris, France
2003	National Design Triennial, Cooper Hewitt, New York, USA
	California Design Biennial, Pasadena Museum of California Art,
	Pasadena, USA
2002	<i>Communication What</i> , Vasi Communication, Studio Cafumo, Venice, Italy <i>STREETWISEONE</i> , Apart Gallery, London, United Kingdom
	I Love to Meet You, Palazzo Fortuny (in collaboration with Venice
	City Council and Studio Camuffo), Venice, Italy
2001	Move, New Image Art Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
1998	Group Show, George's Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

### **Art Fairs**

2020	Independent Art Fair, Cooper Cole, New York, USA
2015	Art On Paper, Joshua Liner Gallery, New York, USA
	V1 at Volta 11, Volta, Basel, Switzerland
2014	Miami Art Project, Art Basel, Miami, USA
2013	Miami Project Art Fair, with Joshua Liner Gallery, New York, USA

# **Public Art Projects**

2015	Ottawa Light Rail Transit Project (Lyon Station Design), Ottawa,
	Canada
2014	Nike SB West LA Courthouse Mural
	Oakley Berrics Skate Park Mural, Downtown Los Angeles, USA
2013	Walker Art Center Fence Mural, Minneapolis, USA
2008	Nike Vine Theater Project

## Awards

2019	Medal of the AIGA, The American Institute of Graphic Arts
2016	National Design Award, Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design
	Museum
2015	Award for Graphic Design, D&AD
2010	Award for Magazine & News Paper Design, D&AD
2009	Volvo Eco Design Award, California Design Biennial



2008 2007	Awards for Press Advertising and Art Direction, D&AD Swerve Festival Best Video Award
2006	Star of Design, PDC Design Award, Cooper Hewitt National Design Triennial 2005 MTV Video Awards Identity Gold Award
	Gold Cannes Cyber Lion, & Gold Cannes Lion & Adweek Best Spot of the Year
	Award for Magazine & News Paper Design, D&AD
2004	Awards for Animation, D&AD
2001	Awards for Animation, Illustration for Advertising, and Mixed Media Campaigns, D&AD
	Featured in Saatchi & Saatchi New Directors' Showcase with
	ESPN Winter X-Games, animated spot 'Loose Clothing', Cannes
	International Festival of Creativity
2000	Design Distinction Award, The International Design Magazine

## **Selected Lectures**

2018 2016	The DO Lectures, FForest, Cardigan, Wales Cooper Hewitt, New York, USA Google SPAN, Los Angeles, USA
2013	Insights Design Lecture Series, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, USA
2011	UCLA Design Lecture Series, Los Angeles, USA OFFF, Barcelona, Spain
2010	A+D Lecture Series, Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, USA
2009	The DO Lectures, FForest, Cardigan, Wales
2007	Chicago MCA, Chicago, USA