

Wilshire Courtyard

Alex Lemke

April 22 - May 20, 2023

Gattopardo is thrilled to present *Wilshire Courtyard*, an exhibition of oil paintings by Los Angeles-based artist Alex Lemke.

The exhibition takes its name from the Miracle Mile office complex once occupied by Aaron Spelling in real life and *Melrose Place's* D&D Advertising on screen. This sense of doubling and splicing permeates Lemke's work, while the jagged striping of the building parallels the impasto marks on the canvases.

Lemke's paintings riff off of the rich painting traditions of landscape and still life picture making to create psychedelic presentations of space and sculpted shapes, allowing contemporary pop-cultural references to enter frame as markers of time and place. Loosely rendered melted sunglasses, Jack in the Box insignia, Grateful Dead iconography, disposable drink cups, dice and other signifiers of sunbelt consumerism hint at the ether from which the paintings emerge.

Alex Lemke (b. 1984) lives and works in Los Angeles. He holds a BFA from ArtCenter College of Design and an MFA from California State University, Los Angeles. His work has been shown at Night Gallery, Reyes Projects, Wilding Cran Gallery and 356 Mission.

