

# Ciaccia Levi

*Olve Sande*  
*Verdurous Drift*

23 May - 13 Jul., 2024

*“The Baroque refers not to an essence but rather to an operative function, to a trait. It endlessly produces folds. It does not invent things: there are all kinds of folds coming from the East, Greek, Roman, Romanesque, Gothic, Classical folds. ... Yet the Baroque trait twists and turns its folds, pushing them to infinity, fold over fold, one upon the other.”*  
- Gilles Deleuze, *“The Fold”*

Olve Sande's new solo exhibition, "Verdurous Drift," marks the artist's fifth solo exhibition at Ciaccia Levi.

Introducing a new direction in Sande's artistic practice, the paintings featured in this exhibition display a revived confidence in hand and eye, coupled with a certain wariness of the conceptual.

The works draw inspiration from a specific form of decorative painting practiced by Norwegian farmers since the early 1700s, known as "rosemaling." This vernacular variant of the Baroque features repetitive flower and rose motifs on everyday objects like bowls, chairs, cabinets, and even walls, where each painter's unique temperament and style differentiated their work.

Historically, the rose painter was a traveler. He would come to a farm, stay for a few days or a week, do his work on the walls and furniture, and move on to the next place. An inscription on a cabinet might read: "Painted on May 9, 1817, by J.T.S.L.". The painting was not something applied over something else to cover the real, but an expression of the meeting between the painter and the situation at hand, a site specific act.

Created between May 6-10, 2024, in the basement of the artist's house, the paintings in 'Verdurous Drift' embody the same spirit of site-specific, contextual creation that characterized the work of historical rosemaling painters.