

## SACCADES

Leo Arnold (with Jo Baer)  
1 March–5 April 2025

Leo Arnold's work centres the classical task of the European painter; depicting the essence of the paysage. Arnold's landscapes take place behind the window of the Eurostar train. Born in London and residing in Amsterdam, Arnold captures the muddled colours of the countryside between the two cities, applying thin washes to expose the canvas weave below it, or else thick impasto areas achieved with a paint knife or his finger. Paint trickles down the canvas as the train rattles along the track. The view is bisected by streaks of light and shadow reflecting off the glass and sloping lines of the plastic window frame. The works are diaristic, an abstraction of a voyage, with a shadow of romanticism cast over the terrain.

Arnold was Jo Baer's studio assistant and companion. While Baer's long career has seen radical shifts in style, she is best known for her minimalist paintings, prominently featuring compositions of white centres flanked by bands of black or colour. At the time, Baer obsessed over Mach Bands, an optical illusion which exaggerates the contrast between edges of differing shades of black and white. The artist's surface level paintings emphasised light above all else. In her final years, Arnold would work on Baer's canvases, making clear outlines in paint to direct her vision.

In contrast, Arnold's work has a murky, haptic quality. Each mark is tacked on, conceived by making the former – a painterly slowness that is afforded to imprecision. Coincidentally, he has honed in on another perceptual principle, saccades, ballistic eye movements that abruptly change the point of fixation. The same function that moves Arnold's eye across the canvas directs his gaze across the landscape, darting between points of focus on the moving train.

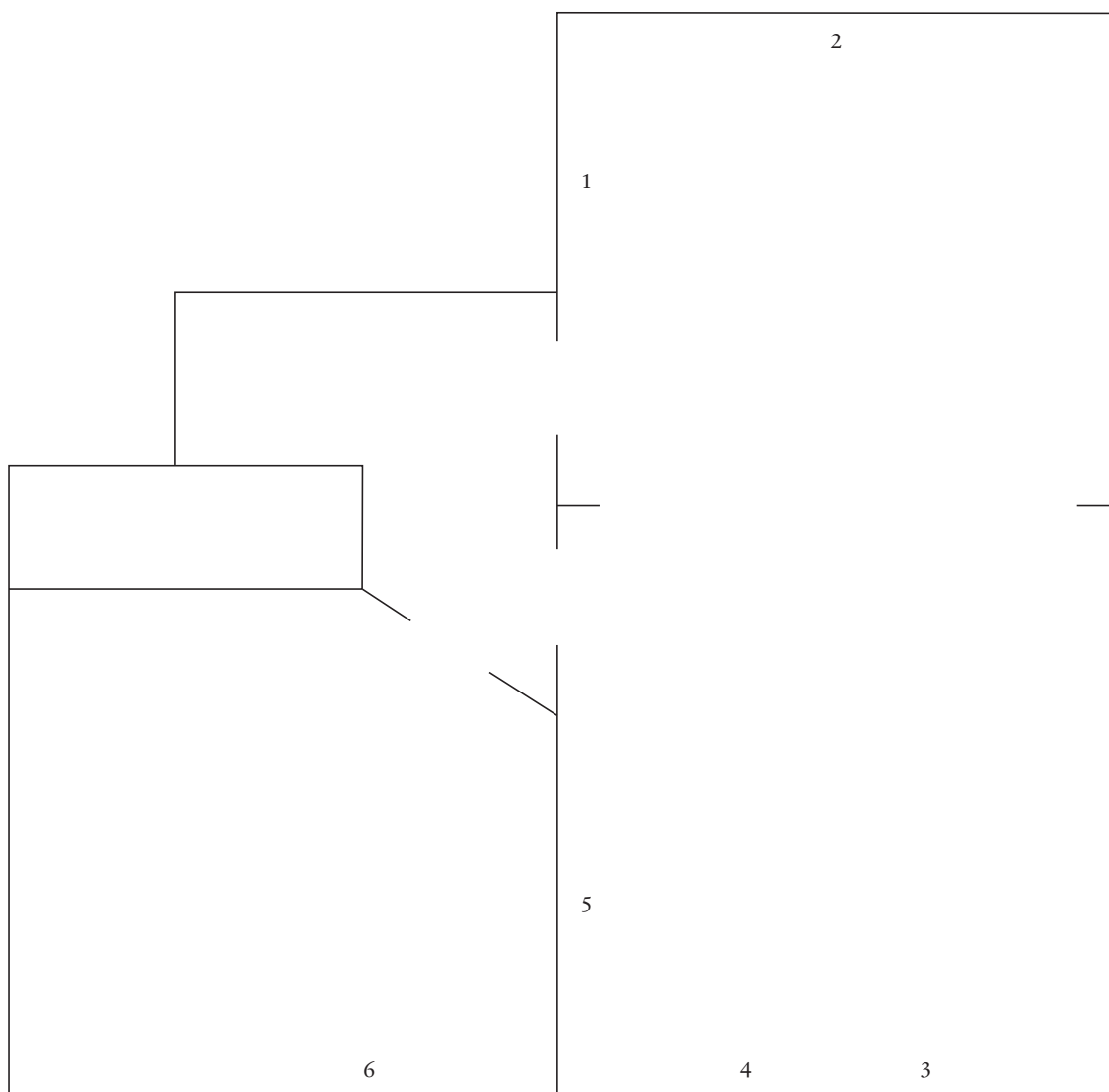
Written by Blue Marcus

### Leo Arnold

(b. 1993, UK) lives and works in Amsterdam. Selected exhibitions include: *Schelpenbed*, Loveday, London (2023), *Dweller*, Annet Gelink Gallery, Amsterdam (2022), *The Offspring*, De Ateliers, Amsterdam (2020), *All In Green My Love Went Riding*, Giardino dello Zuccaro, Dorsoduro, Venice (2019). His work is held in the collection of Stichting Kunst & Historisch Beziert ABN AMRO, Rabo Art Collection and ING Bank Collection.

### Jo Baer

(1929–2025), was an American painter who lived and worked in Amsterdam. Baer has been the subject of solo exhibitions at institutions including the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin (2023–2024), Dia Beacon, New York (2022), MAMCO – Museum of Contemporary Art, Geneva (2022), Camden Art Centre, London (2015), Museum Ludwig, Cologne, Germany (2013), Secession, Vienna (2008), Dia Art Foundation, New York (2002), Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (1986, 1999, 2013), Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, the Netherlands (1978, 1986), and the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (1975). Significant recent group exhibitions include *Of Mythic Worlds*, The Drawing Center, New York (2023), *Our House*, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (2021–2023), *LandEscape*, Katonah Museum of Art, New York (2019), *Making Space: Women Artists and Postwar Abstraction*, The Museum of Modern Art, New York (2017), *The Absent Museum*, WIELS, Brussels (2017), *Calder to Kelly*, Kunstmuseum Winterthur, Switzerland (2017), and *Whitney Biennial*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (2016). Her works are included in numerous public collections, such as the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, Museum MMK für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt, The Museum of Modern Art, New York and Tate, London.



1 Jo Baer  
*Untitled*, 1961  
 Gouache on paper, frame  
 15.2 × 15.2 cm  
 (27 × 27 × 4 cm framed)

2 Leo Arnold  
*Eurostar 3 (s'-Gravendeel)*, 2024–2025  
 Oil on canvas  
 250 × 160 cm

3 Leo Arnold  
*Eurostar 2 (Folkestone)*, 2024–2025  
 Oil on canvas  
 200 × 150.5 cm

4 Leo Arnold  
*Eurostar 4 (Brasschaat)*, 2024–2025  
 Oil on canvas  
 215 × 130.5 cm

5 Jo Baer  
*Hinges*, 1964  
 Graphite on paper  
 10.2 × 10.6 cm  
 (20.5 × 33 × 4 cm framed)

6 Leo Arnold  
*Eurostar 1 (Schoten)*, 2024–2025  
 Oil on canvas  
 219.5 × 125 cm