

Maija Luutonen  
*Cream Sand*

February 15 –  
March 29, 2025

NOON Projects  
951 Chung King Road  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Thursday to Saturday  
Noon–6pm  
And by Appointment

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NOON



**NOON Projects  
Presents**

**Maija Luutonen  
*Cream Sand***

**February 15 –  
March 29, 2025**

Opening Reception:  
February 15, 2025  
6–8 PM

951 Chung King Road  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

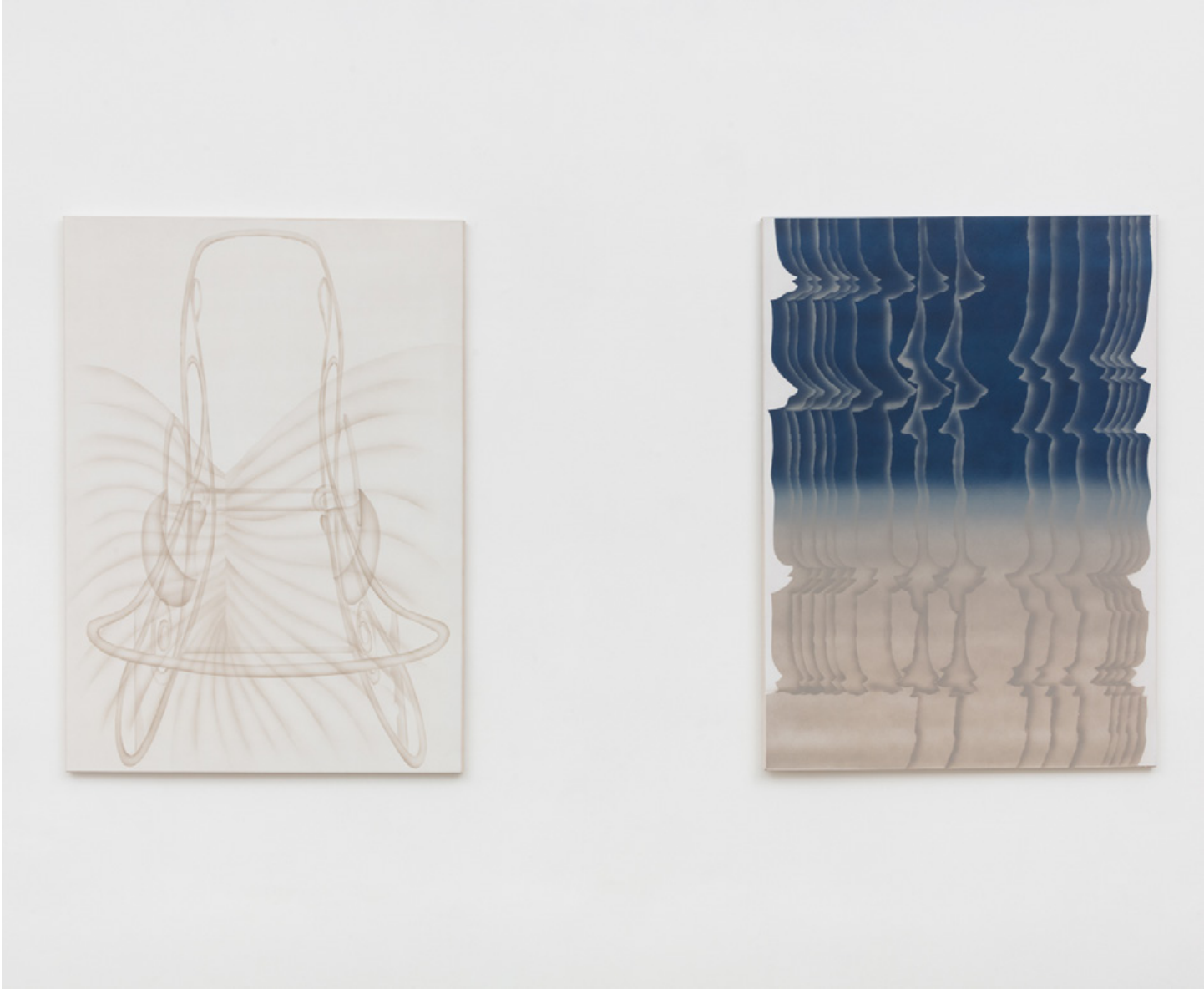
NOON Projects is honored to present *Cream Sand*, Maija Luutonen's first solo exhibition in the United States. This new body of work marks a return to canvas and linen after two decades of working primarily with paper, expanding her ongoing exploration of materiality, surface, and the ephemeral nature of perception. *Cream Sand* reflects on the body and its surroundings—both the physicality of what is seen and the intimate sensations of textiles, garments, and objects against the skin. The exhibition's title stems from a misreading of a Japanese sandwich wrapper labeled "Cream Sando," a phrase that, when misinterpreted, conjures images of muted tones and textures, a blending of cream and sand into a mysterious substance. This interplay of language, material, and sensory experience runs throughout Luutonen's work, as she builds compositions that hover between drawing and painting, precision and fluidity, presence and absence.

Over the past 20 years, Luutonen has developed a distinctive practice rooted in painting, drawing, and installation. She is best known for her large-scale paintings on paper, where airbrushed pigment and layered surfaces create a delicate balance between flatness and depth. In her installations, these works often extend beyond the two-dimensional plane, incorporating sculptural elements that activate the surrounding space.

With *Cream Sand*, Luutonen embraces the shift from paper to textiles and canvas, reconnecting with these materials through a process of exploration and rediscovery. This transition has led to works that are at once minimal and textural, maintaining the immediacy of drawing while engaging with the depth and weight of textiles. She treats canvas as a living surface, allowing its fibers to shape and influence her compositions. Muted tones and layered marks evoke impressions of hair, lace, pinstripes, and the subtle imprints left by garments on skin. The body remains central in the works—both as an imagined presence and as a site of memory, sensation, and transformation.

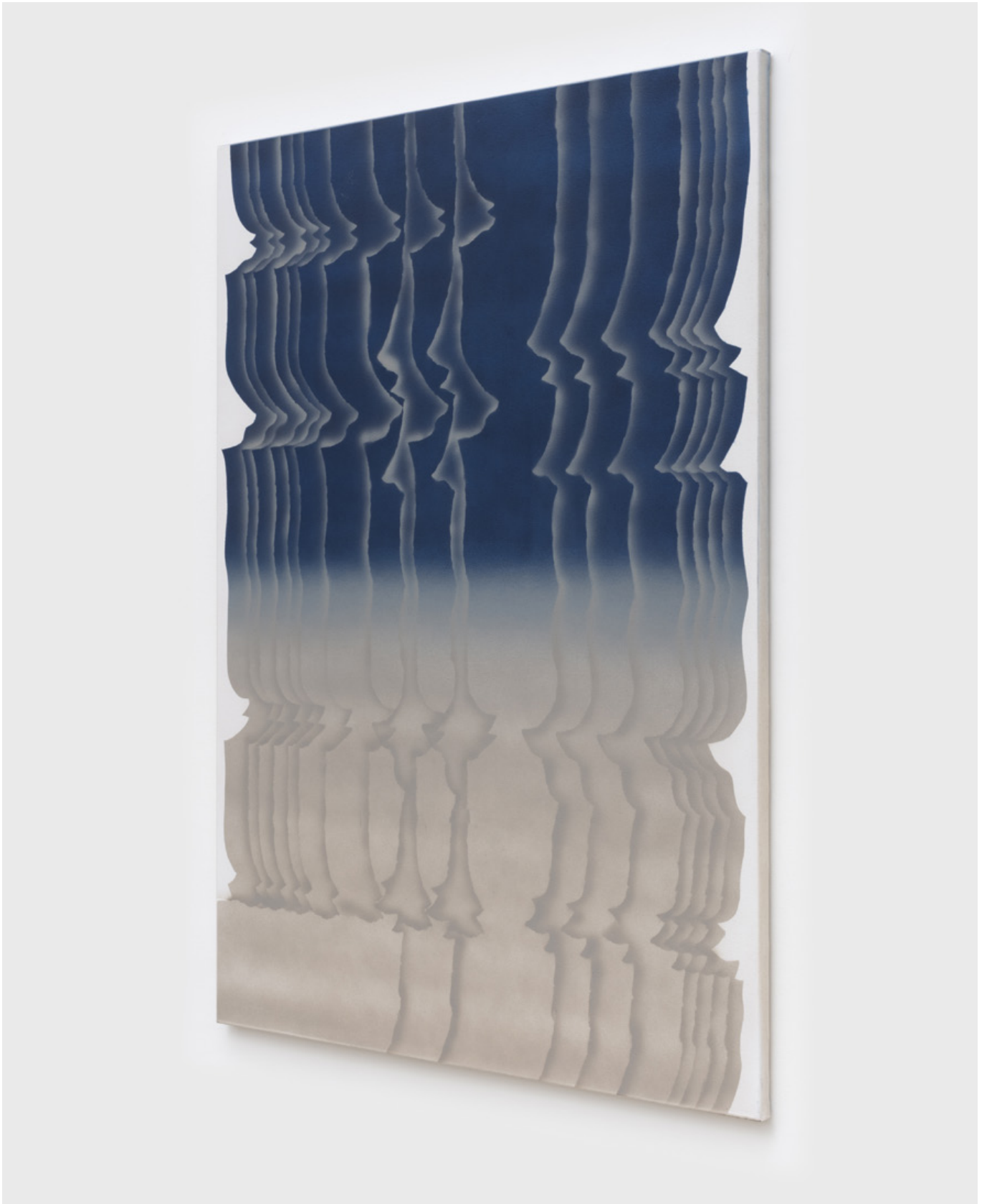
Luutonen's working process is rooted in accumulation and intuition. She gathers images, writes, sketches, categorizes, and experiments with materials, allowing ideas to emerge through repetition and variation. The resulting works resist fixed representation, instead offering glimpses of the unseen—textures felt but not always visible, forms that hover on the edge of recognition. In *Cream Sand*, she continues her investigation into the relationship between material and meaning, constructing a space where the act of looking is intertwined with the act of feeling.





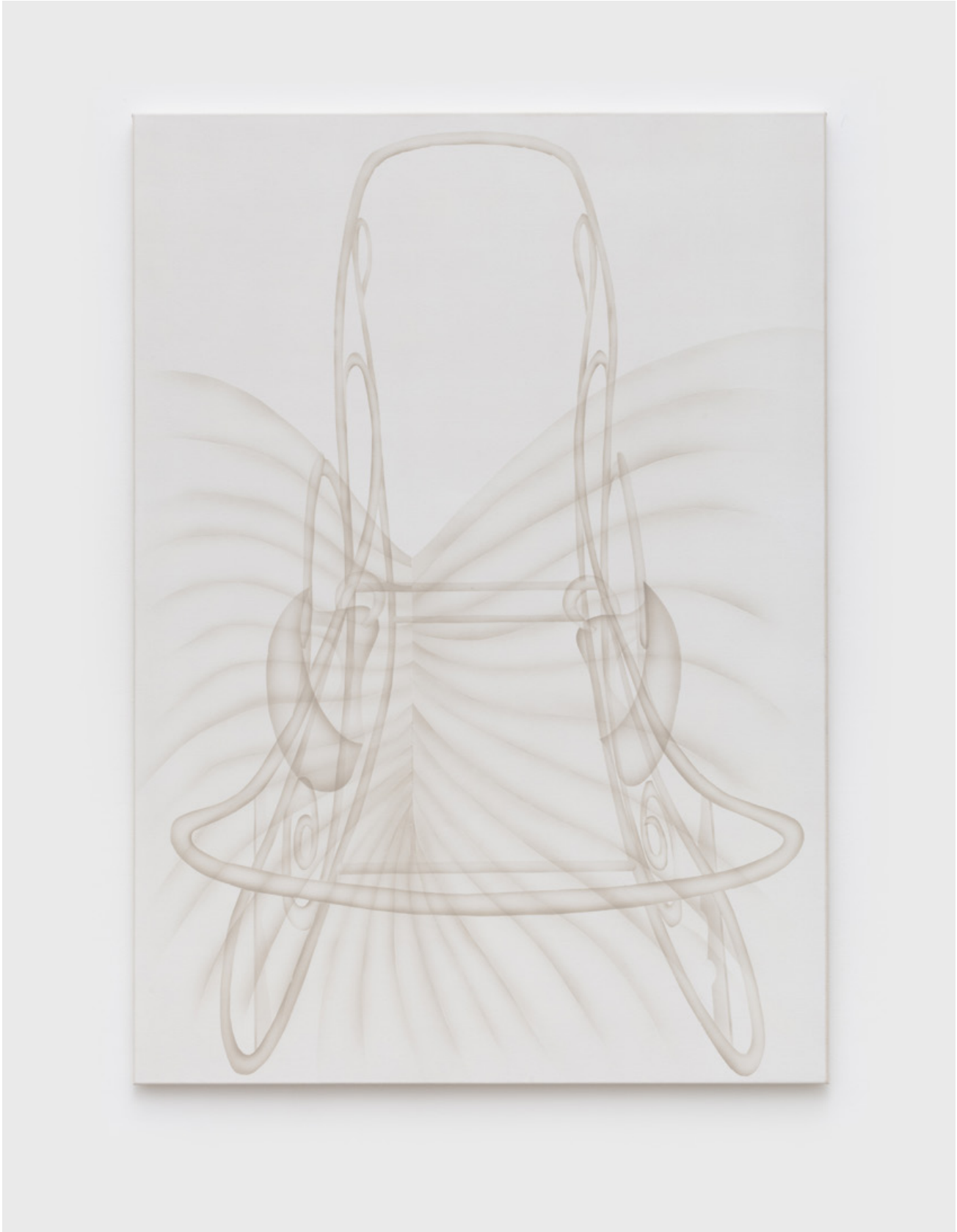


**Maija Luutonen**  
*Silver Tea*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
55 x 39 ½ in. | 140 x 100 cm



**Maija Luutonen**  
*Silver Tea*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
55 x 39 ½ in. | 140 x 100 cm





**Maija Luutonen**  
*Rings Rings Rings*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
55 x 39 ½ in. | 140 x 100 cm



**Maija Luutonen**  
*Rings Rings Rings* (Detail), 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
55 x 39 ½ in. | 140 x 100 cm







**Maija Luutonen**

*Baby*, 2025

Acrylic on linen

39 ½ x 27 ½ in. | 100 x 70 cm



**Maija Luutonen**  
*Baby*, 2025  
Acrylic on linen  
39 ½ x 27 ½ in. | 100 x 70 cm





**Maija Luutonen**  
*Rings*, 2025  
acrylic on canvas  
39 ½ x 27 ½ in. | 100 x 70 cm



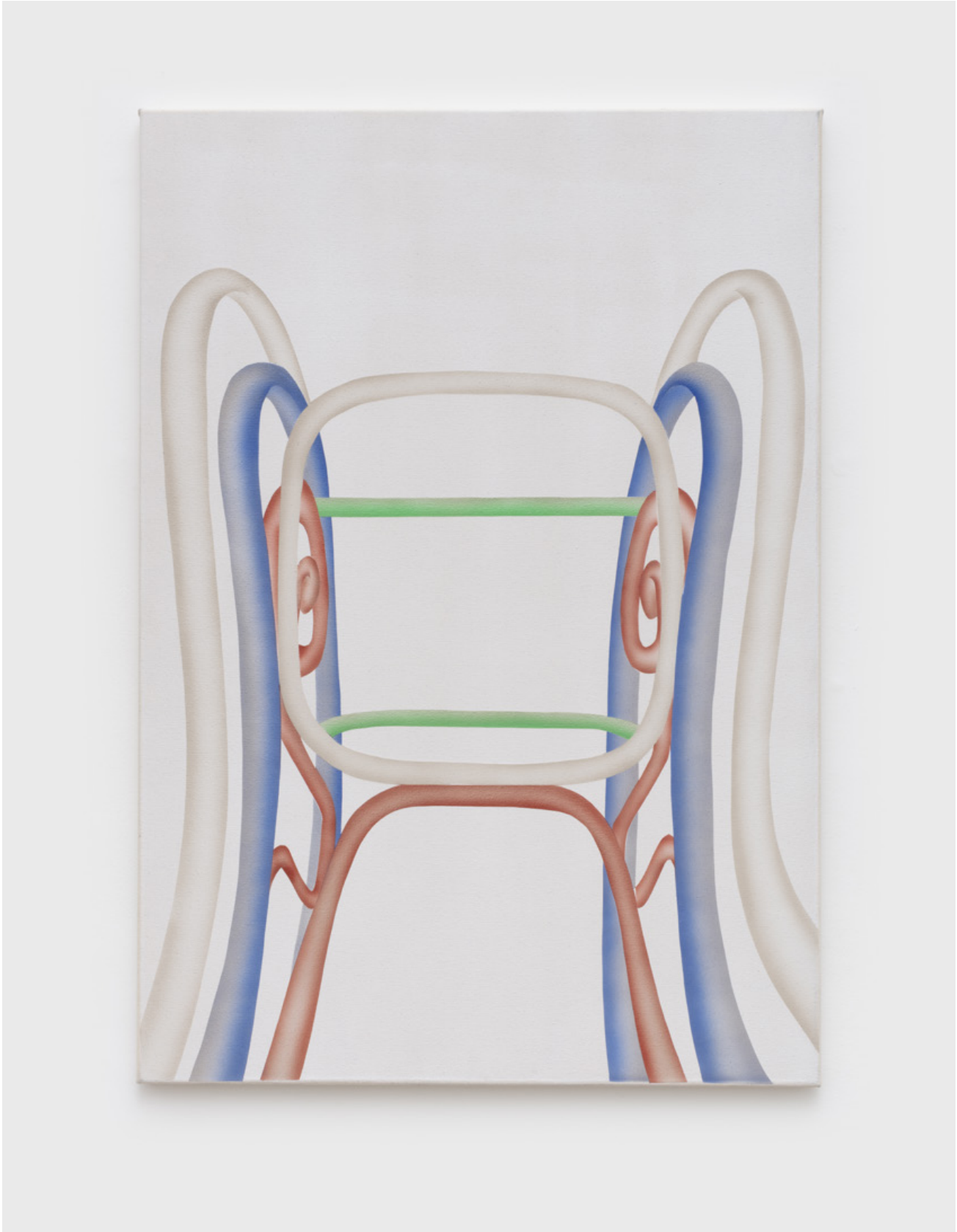


**Maija Luutonen**  
*Powders*, 2025  
Acrylic on linen  
39 ½ x 27 ½ in. | 100 x 70 cm





**Maija Luutonen**  
*Powders*, 2025  
Acrylic on linen  
39 ½ x 27 ½ in. | 100 x 70 cm



**Maija Luutonen**  
*Rings Rings*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
39 ½ x 27 ½ in. | 100 x 70 cm







**Maija Luutonen**  
*Candy*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
27 ½ x 19 ¾ in. | 70 x 50 cm



**Maija Luutonen**  
*Candy*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
27 ½ x 19 ¾ in. | 70 x 50 cm



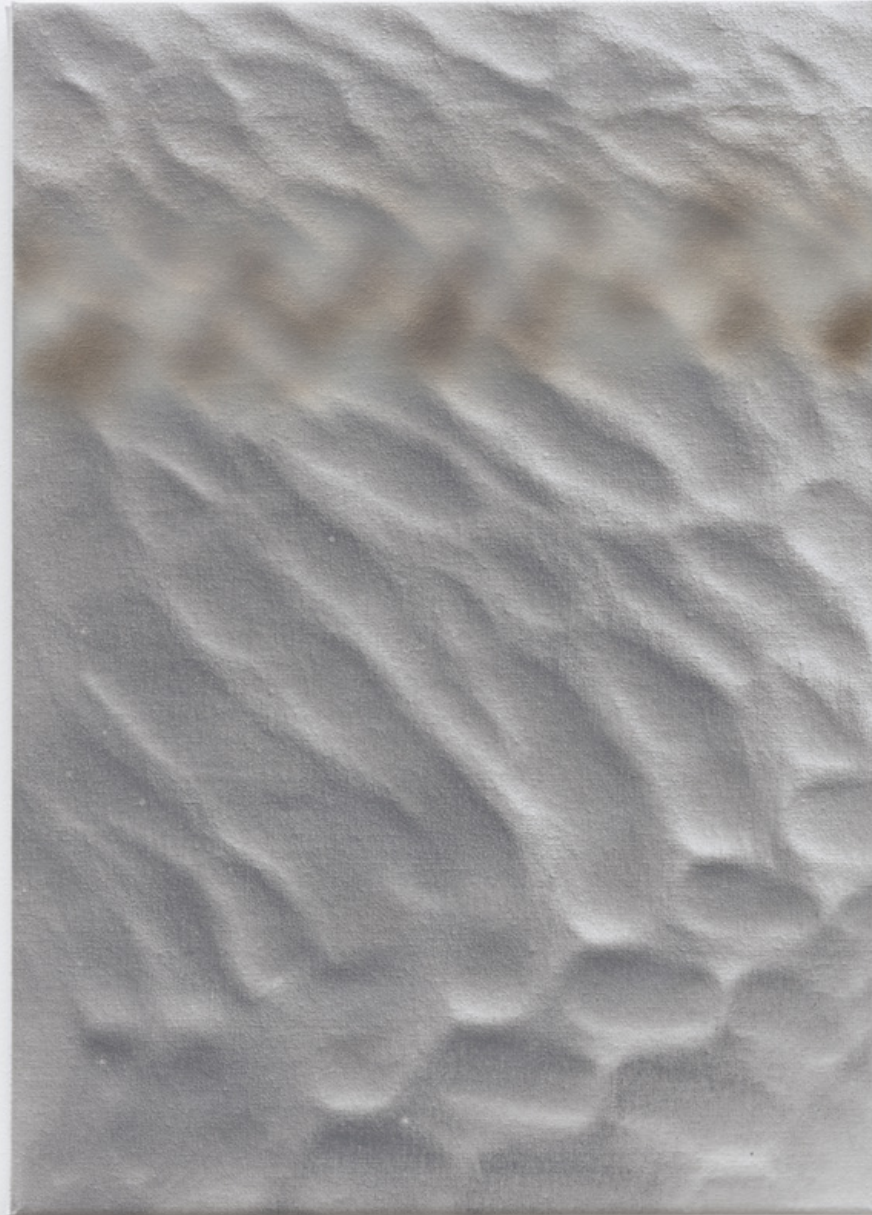


**Maija Luutonen**  
*Coffee Me, Dance Me, Butter Me*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
19 ¾ x 13 ¾ in. | 50 x 35 cm





**Maija Luutonen**  
*Waxing*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
19 ¾ x 13 ¾ in. | 50 x 35 cm



**Maija Luutonen**  
*Clays*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
13 ¾ x 9 ¾ in. | 35 x 25 cm





**Maija Luutonen**  
*Sandra*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
9 ¾ x 6 ¾ in. | 25 x 17.5 cm





**Maija Luutonen**  
*Grinning Soul*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
9 ¾ x 6 ¾ in. | 25 x 17.5 cm





**Maija Luutonen**  
*Meals*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
9 ¾ x 6 ¾ in. | 25 x 17.5 cm





**Maija Luutonen**  
*Lady, 2025*  
Acrylic on canvas  
6 ¾ x 5 in. | 17.5 x 12.5 cm



**Maija Luutonen**  
*Tossed*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
13 ¾ x 9 ¾ in. | 35 x 25 cm





**Maija Luutonen**  
*partition*, 2025  
Acrylic on linen  
9 ¾ x 6 ¾ in. | 25 x 17.5 cm





**Maija Luutonen**  
*Sando*, 2025  
Acrylic on canvas  
6 ¾ x 5 in. | 17.5 x 12.5 cm

## Biography Maija Luutonen

Maija Luutonen (b. 1978 Finland) explores the boundaries of painting through a conceptual yet intuitive approach. She constructs spatial compositions that integrate sculptural elements and objects, pushing the relationship between two- and three-dimensionality. Her practice engages with the transient nature of surfaces, addressing movement and time as inherent aspects of representation. While her work often examines the attributes and limitations of painting, it is also deeply informed by the unpredictable and subconscious aspects of the mind.

Luutonen earned her MFA from the Finnish Academy of Fine Arts in 2006. Her solo exhibitions include *Res at Sinne*, Helsinki (2021), *Patch at Kunsthaus Pasquart*, Biel/Bienne, Switzerland (2019), *Patch at Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art*, Helsinki (2018), *Draft and Float at kim? Contemporary Art Centre*, Riga (2017), and *Soon at SIC* (2016). She has participated in numerous international group exhibitions, including *South of the Lighthouse at Vermilion Sands*, Copenhagen (2022), *Lunar at Salon de Normandy*, Paris (2020), *(In)Visible Dreams and Streams at CAC*, Vilnius (2016), and *Affective Attunements at Galleri Bo Bjerggaard*, Copenhagen (2015).

Her works are held in prominent collections, including the Finnish National Gallery / Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma, HAM Helsinki Art Museum, Saastamoinen Foundation, and Wihuri Foundation. She has participated in international residencies in New York, Tokyo, and Paris.

Luutonen lives and works in Helsinki, Finland.