

Frame Job
Basis Project Space
14/07 - 22/07/2025

A frame is approval that a picture is worth preserving. At some point in time, every picture needed a frame. Now, every picture needs a framework. The physical one is an old concern.

I had a Trompe L'oeil Sadness I needed to work through. Where I live, everything is painted to simulate the real. Even bathroom doors in shabby apartments have faux wood grain painted on them. It is all so poorly done you can't suspend your disbelief. I imagine how, once in the past, quodlibets held this deceiving quality. I think of this magic moment when you realise the objects you've been observing are, in fact, part of a painting. Quodlibets painted in the 21st century have a didactic function that is not fun to unpack.

I'm not one to fool anyone; these frames are portals to the work of other artists and traditions that have influenced me. Garlands by Baroque female painters, composite heads made of shells, ornate frame reliefs on building façades, or pietra dura inlays; all parts of a larger frame job.

Sofia Mascate



1. Sofia Mascate, Frame Job #1 (Web)
2025, oil on canvas, 90x110cm



4. Sofia Mascate, Nautilus
2025, oil on canvas, 24x31cm



2. Sofia Mascate, Frame Job #2 (Flirt)
2025, oil on canvas, 70x90cm



5. Sofia Mascate, Frame Job #3 (Sunset)
2025, oil on canvas, 90x125cm



3. Sofia Mascate, Shellout
2025, oil on canvas, 30x40cm

Photos: Jens Gerber