

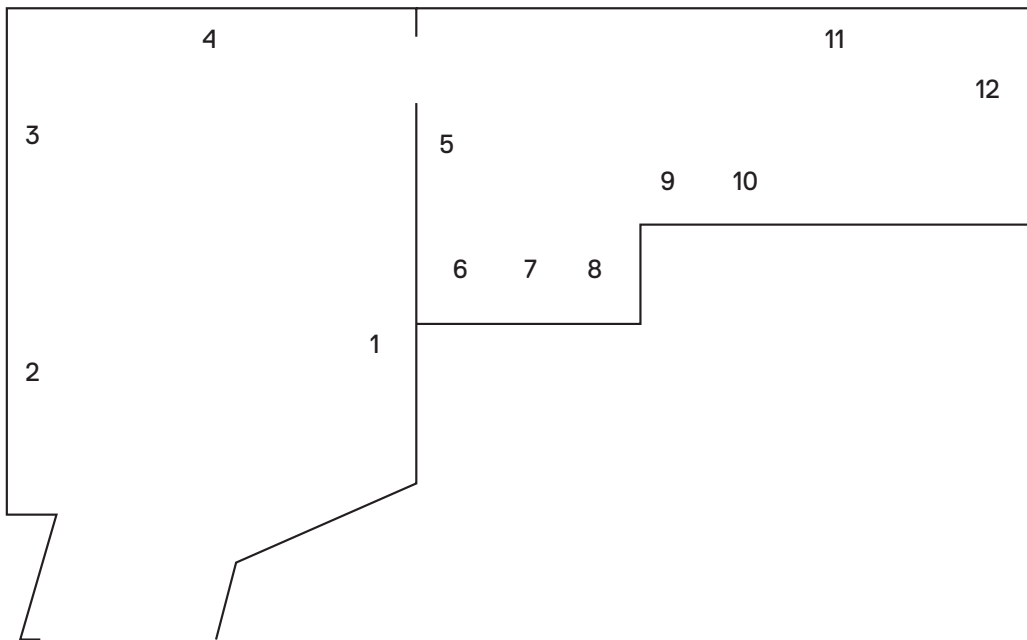
The Daylight Sick
Jochem Mestriner

23 May - 12 July

Jochem Mestriner makes paintings that seduce and poison in equal measure. Working in extended sessions, he builds surfaces through layers of pigment, solvent, and gestural residue. These materials are as chemically volatile as they are visually compelling. The canvas becomes a site of slow intoxication: what attracts the eye is also what unsettles it.

This double logic borrows from the Drosera, the sundew plant that produces a luminous, sweet-scented dew to lure insects onto its leaves, where they are trapped and digested. Mestriner's paintings operate along this same logic. The surface attracts you with colour, sheen, and the residue of accumulated gestures buried beneath what is visible. But the invitation is not entirely safe. The painting not only produces desire, it consumes it.

Materiality is central to this project. The sheen of certain pigments, the residue left by a solvent-wiped surface, or the ghost of a former composition buried beneath new layers are not incidental qualities. They are the primary means by which the paintings perform their attraction. Rooted in the traditions of Still life and genre painting, informed by literature, philosophy, art history and biology, Mestriner's work operates at the threshold between beauty and harm, between the living and the preserved. His paintings do not illustrate this condition; they enact it.



1. Là-bas, 2026

Oil, acrylic, oil stick, oil pastel, colour pencil & synthetic paper on linen
50 x 40 cm (19 5/8 x 15 3/4 in)

2. Second Sleep, 2026

Pencil on paper, framed
24.5 x 36 cm (9 5/8 x 14 1/8 in)

3. The Studio, 2026

Oil, oil stick, oil pastel, colour pencil & synthetic paper on canvas
30 x 50 cm (11 3/4 x 19 5/8 in)

4. C-14 Second Sleep, 2026

Oil, oil stick, oil pastel & colour pencil on canvas
140 x 170 cm (55 1/8 x 66 7/8 in)

5. Try as a might, for the life of me - I cannot fight it, 2026

Oil, oil stick, oil pastel, colour pencil & postcard on linen
40 x 50 cm (15 3/4 x 19 5/8 in)

6. Time passed that I beheld, Fresh leaves, Green leaves, Bright in the sun, 2026

Pencil on paper, framed
36 cm x 27,5 cm (14 1/8 x 10 7/8 in)

7. Time passed that I beheld, Fresh leaves, Green leaves, Bright in the sun, 2026

Pencil on paper, framed
27,5 cm x 36 cm (10 7/8 x 14 1/8 in)

8. Time passed that I beheld, Fresh leaves, Green leaves, Bright in the sun, 2026

Pencil on paper, framed
36 cm x 27,5 cm (14 1/8 x 10 7/8 in)

9. The Records of a Weather-Exposed Skeleton, 2026

Oil, oil stick, oil pastel, colour pencil on canvas
30 x 40 cm (11 3/4 x 15 3/4 in)

10. Watchmen, what of the night?, 2026

Oil, oil stick, oil pastel & colour pencil on canvas
30 x 40 cm (11 3/4 x 15 3/4 in)

11. Portrait of an Epicyclist, 2026

Oil, oil stick, oil pastel & colour pencil on canvas
190 x 140 cm (74 3/4 x 55 1/8 in)

12. Nightwood, 2026

Oil, oil stick, oil pastel & colour pencil on canvas
65 x 50 cm (25 5/8 x 19 5/8 in)