

JUSTIN ROBINSON ARTIST STATEMENT

Painting takes on new life in the multidisciplinary artistic practice of Justin Robinson. An abstract visual vocabulary personifies our attachment to feelings of nostalgia. Through color, shape, and texture, Robinson invites us on his personal journey, excavating youthful memories within his canvases.

He begins with a drawing or an oil stick sketch, formulating a plan before embarking onto the canvas. With acrylics and oils, he takes these blueprints as a foundation for a more intuitive style. He reacts to his environment, his studio, his mental state, and, when applicable, knowledge on a particular subject. What first appears as repetition, an endless combination of gestural brushstrokes exposes the constantly evolving refinement of Robinson's style as his control and precision take form. An intentionality and simultaneous experimentation with color and shape unearth his desired tone.

From series to series and piece to piece his work transforms. While absorbing the techniques of the masters and drawing inspiration from contemporary painters such as Stanley Whitney and Howard Hodgkin, his practice reacts to his inspirations and translates them into pieces all his own. The trajectory of his work and his career as an artist have been profoundly impacted by his time as a Studio Assistant to famed New York artist Eddie Martinez. From understanding the basics of running a studio to the inner workings of the art world, he discovered a new perspective for achieving his professional goals. Martinez's influence seeped into Robinson's technical approach as well. He found a new sense of discipline that allowed him to layer his paints in more complex and sophisticated ways in addition to refining his palette to more conscious combinations of colors all to enhance the impactful nature of the stories he shares with his viewers.

Life experiences intertwined with passions for music and film leave his practice a truly autobiographical progression in real time. For Robinson, his underlying thread of longing and remembrance is a means to overcome the tribulations of his life, finding comfort in the memories of his youth. As he imbues each work with a piece of himself, he creates each piece with the aspiration that others will find connection, resonating with their own sense of nostalgia, harkening back to their own memories that continually anchor them.