

Excerpt from The New Haven Independent:

Artists Look Through The Glass

by Brian Slattery | Oct 22, 2024

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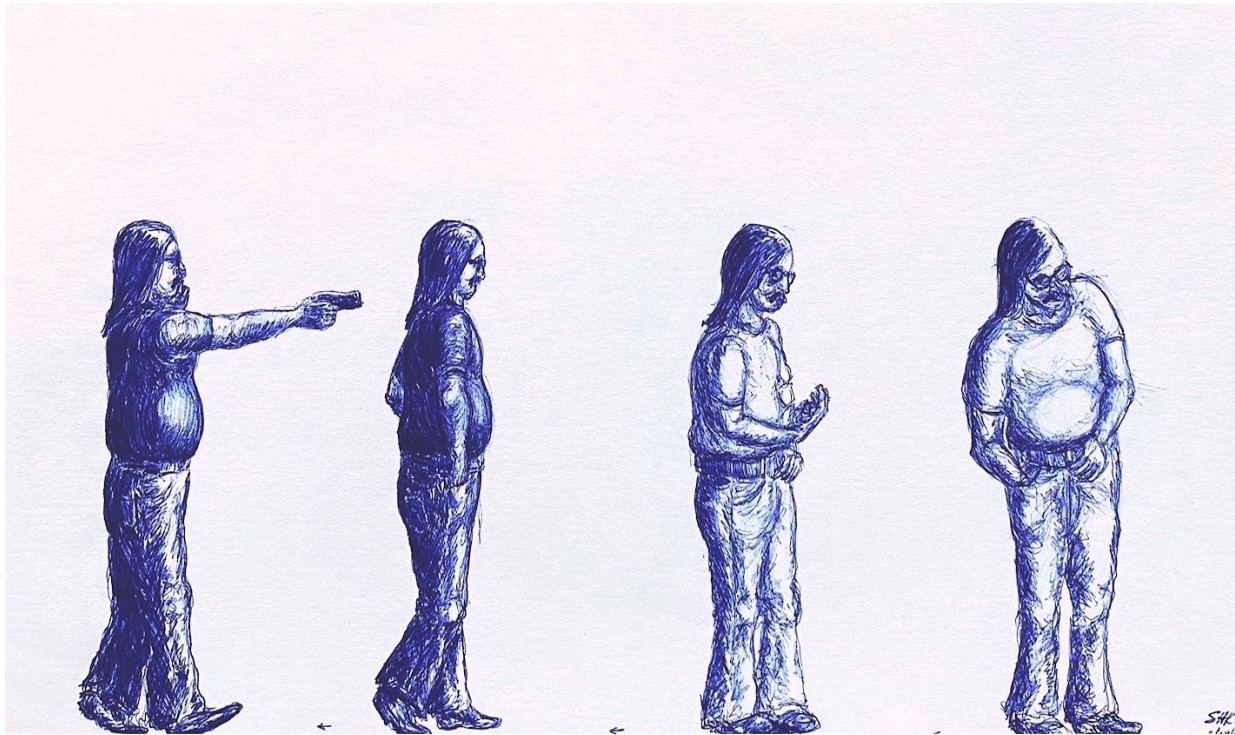


Here It Is

SHELDON KREVI

On the opposite wall, “Bold as Love” shows Sheldon Krevit as an artist of impressive range. “Evident throughout Krevit’s work is a love of painting and an ongoing involvement with the nature of perception. He delights in essence, in the continuum of the microscopic to the cosmic,” an accompanying note states.

Krevit’s show also clarifies an important aspect of his artistic practice, which is that he moves seamlessly between completely abstract paintings and well-crafted, detailed figurative drawing. The painting *Bold as Love* is essentially a field of two colors side by side, fields that reveal themselves to be quite a bit more complex, though no less abstract, upon closer inspection. Nearby is the pencil drawing *Homage to 1920s Beauty*, a depiction of a posing nude, executed with great precision and eye for detail.



Man At Checkout.

SHELDON KREVIT

Several decades ago it might have been taken for granted that an abstract artist was doing so entirely by choice, having learned already how to create highly skilled figurative paintings (think Picasso). By the 1980s this might have no longer been the case, as artists might arrive in art school with a set of ideas they wanted to explore, and a commitment to abstraction that would have left figurative art out.

Krevit shows that he belongs in the group of artists who can do both abstract and figurative art at a high level. Also on display in many of the pieces is a certain impish humor. *Man at Checkout*, for example, is a simple sketch with a ballpoint pen that packs a punch, conveying menace, surprise, and complicated humor in four figures. The figurative drawings thus open a window to the abstract pieces. On display in those pieces is Krevit's obvious skill, his knowledge of color and ability to deploy it. But perhaps the abstracts aren't intended to be approached with a somber glare, but rather with an eye toward engagement in a way more akin to a puzzle, a mental amusement park ride, an engrossing mystery. Krevit is serious in his ability to make art, but is, on a certain level, encouraging the viewer to have fun.

"Overtones" and "Bold as Love" run at Kehler Liddell Gallery, 873 Whalley Ave., through Nov. 10. [Visit the gallery's website](#) for hours and more information.