

# M+B

## The New York Times

### What to See in New York Art Galleries This Week

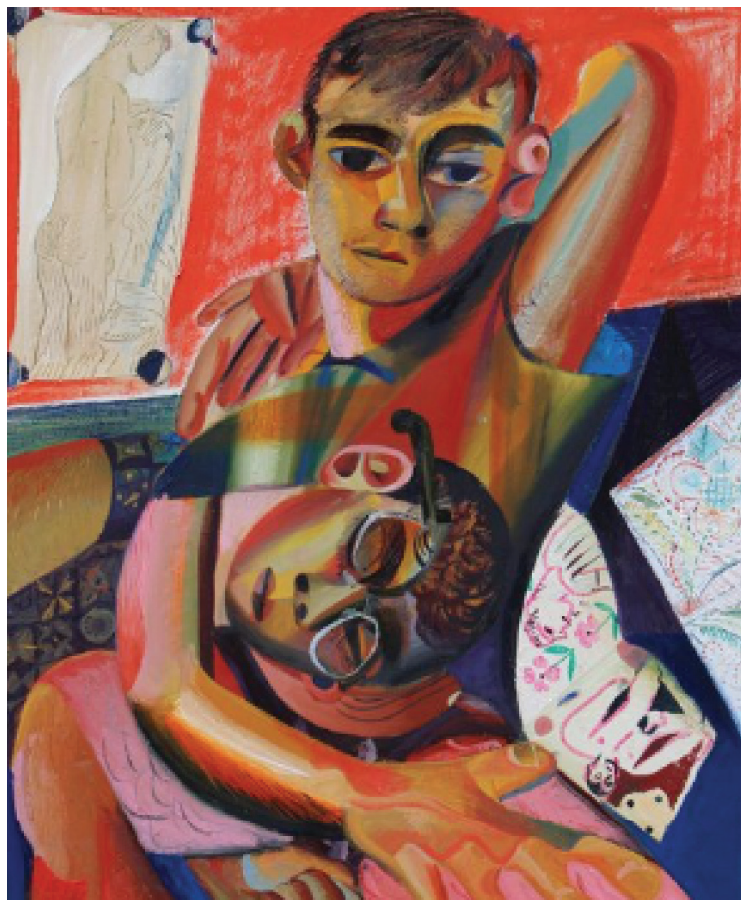
By HOLLAND COTTER, Roberta Smith and MARTHA SCHWENDENER | SEPT. 28, 2017

Louis Fratino's paintings are hot and not just because they focus primarily on muscly young men who are scantily clad, if at all. Seemingly painted mostly in the same interior, they are also hot with the pleasure of lying-around-the-house domesticity, of shared privacy. And they are hot too with painterly attention and erudition — inviting a similar scrutiny from the viewer. Nearly every brush stroke and mark, every detail of furnishings and body hair, has a life of its own.

Mr. Fratino's early promise was apparent in "With Everyone," a solo show of small canvases in this gallery's project room last year. "So, I've Got You" is his second effort here, its title suggesting that the artist now has everything where he wants it: his friends and lovers, his variegated painting style and his audience, mixed together in a new closeness.

Mr. Fratino's stylized figuration draws from Marsden Hartley, Dana Schutz and Elizabeth Murray. The head bathed in red in "Tristan Dancing, Venus" might belong to a Matisse faun.

Mr. Fratino also splits the difference between two British painters of nude men, bringing together Lucian Freud's faceted flesh and David Hockney's languid homoeroticism.



"Dolphin Street" by Louis Fratino.  
Thierry Goldberg Gallery