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ARTISTS TO WATCH

Elephant's Pick of February's Most Essential Artists

Sweep from abstract landscapes to concrete artefacts as we guide you through this month's unmissable artists.



Brian Rattiner, Songs by the Lake, 2021

Brian Rattiner

Brian Rattiner's sublime abstract paintings are currently showing in *Two Birds in a Pale Sky* at Carvalho Park in New York. These playful new works are the largest he has ever shown, featuring characterful bursts of bright pinks, blues and yellows as Rattiner explores the "freedom" of nature, creating his paintings using loose, instinctive movements.

While these works are abstract, Rattiner classes them as landscape paintings, capturing the essence of outdoor space while leaving exact shapes and forms to the viewer's imagination. These works all came from two source locations: Anderson Ranch, near Aspen, Colorado, and Monson, Maine. He has also fed natural materials into the creation of these works, including melted snow for the dyed arcs at the bottom of one painting, *Finally the Spring*. It can be challenging to find new life in landscape painting, given its long and rich history, but Rattiner's works celebrate the outdoors in imaginative, enticing ways. (*Emily Steer*)