

**James Busby**

Suspirium

May 6 - June 10, 2023



Lowell Ryan Projects is pleased to present *Suspirium* a solo exhibition by South Carolina-based artist James Busby. Consisting of a series of intimately scaled abstract and representational works on canvas, panel, and wood, as well as an installational line drawing encompassing the gallery walls, Busby explores perception through a physiological and psychological framework. The title of the exhibition, *Suspirium*, is the Latin term for a deep breath. This will be Busby's first exhibition in Los Angeles and with Lowell Ryan Projects.

Both hard-edge line and geometric shape provide structure to all of the works in the exhibition. In the case of the abstract works, lines function as a direction for Busby's freehand brushwork. Once a formation of lines have been mapped out, often as simple as two or three lines, Busby loads a small paintbrush with paint and begins a meditative process of applying marks on the canvas until the paint has run out. The process is repeated until the entire canvas is filled with gradations of small-scale brushstrokes. The making of the abstract works involves a physical component—focus, attention, and consistency are required to achieve a rhythm of movement. While the works can take on an almost digital feeling, when viewed closely the artist's hand becomes apparent as well as the tactile nature of the work.

With the representational works, line and shape ground, levitate and distort a perception of scale in the imagery. Birds, deer, and trees that Busby can view from his rural studio on a lake in South Carolina are depicted in monochromatic graphite drawings on bare gessoed panel surfaces. Rendered in a small scale almost like a bonsai tree, the flora and fauna take on a psychological component. While they are all depictions of real life-size trees and animals, Busby distorts our understanding of his naturalist experience. Through the simple act of drawing a line or rendering a tree branch in shades of gray Busby is able to displace a sense of space and scale, ultimately questioning our understanding of certainty and alluding to our capacity to change our perception of the world around us.

For more information please contact: [info@lowellryanprojects.com](mailto:info@lowellryanprojects.com)



James Busby  
*Half My Mind*  
2023  
Graphite and gesso on panel  
14h x 11w inches  
35.5h x 28w cm

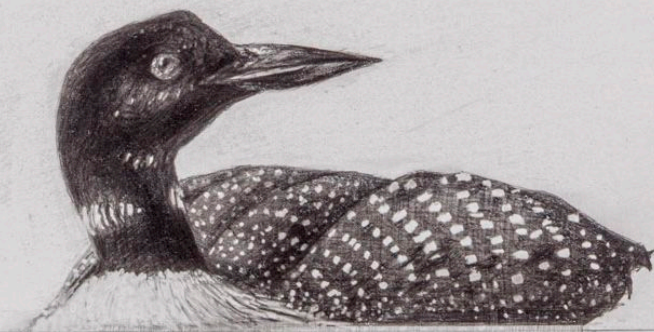


James Busby  
*Half My Mind* (detail)  
2023

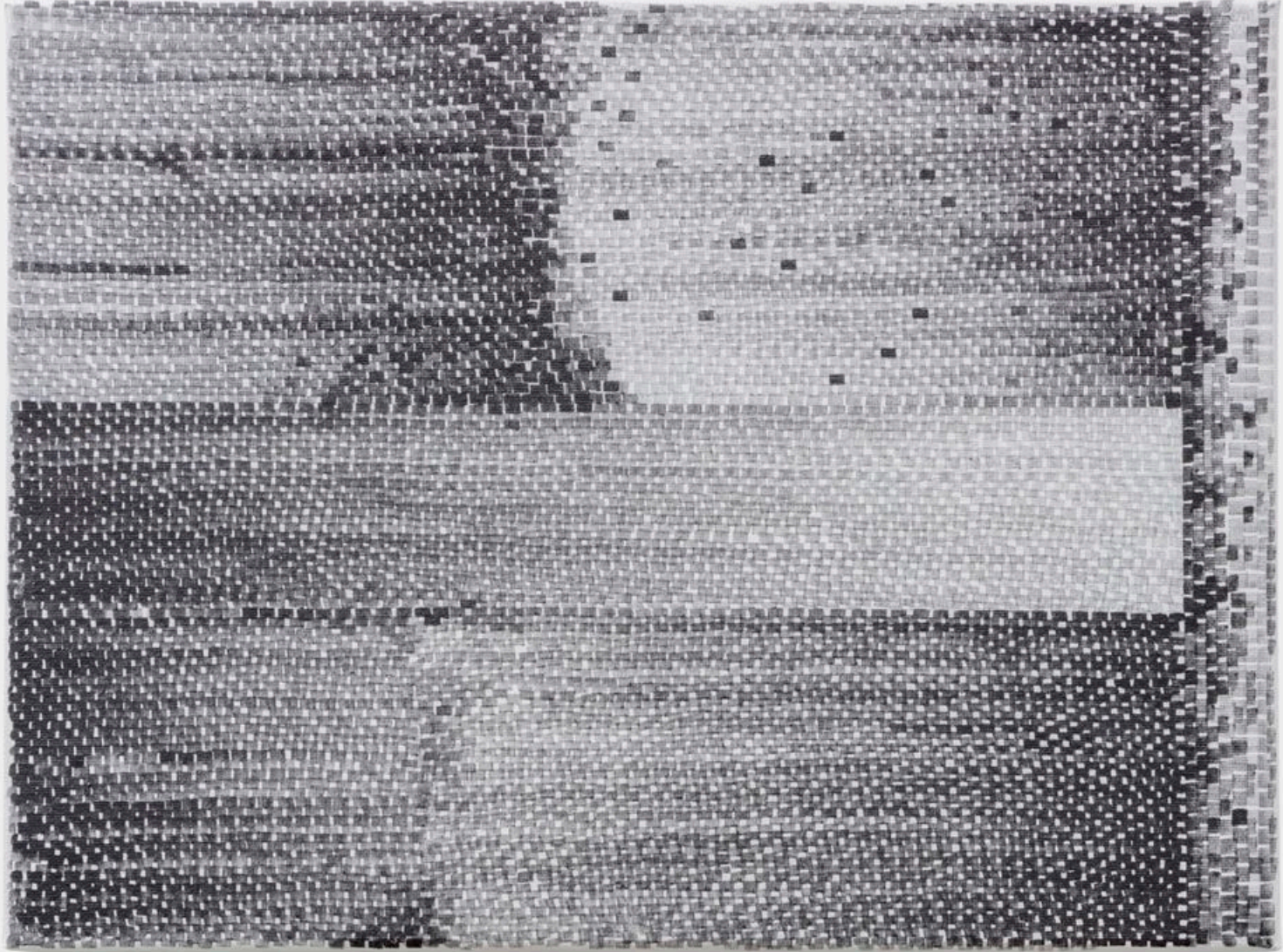




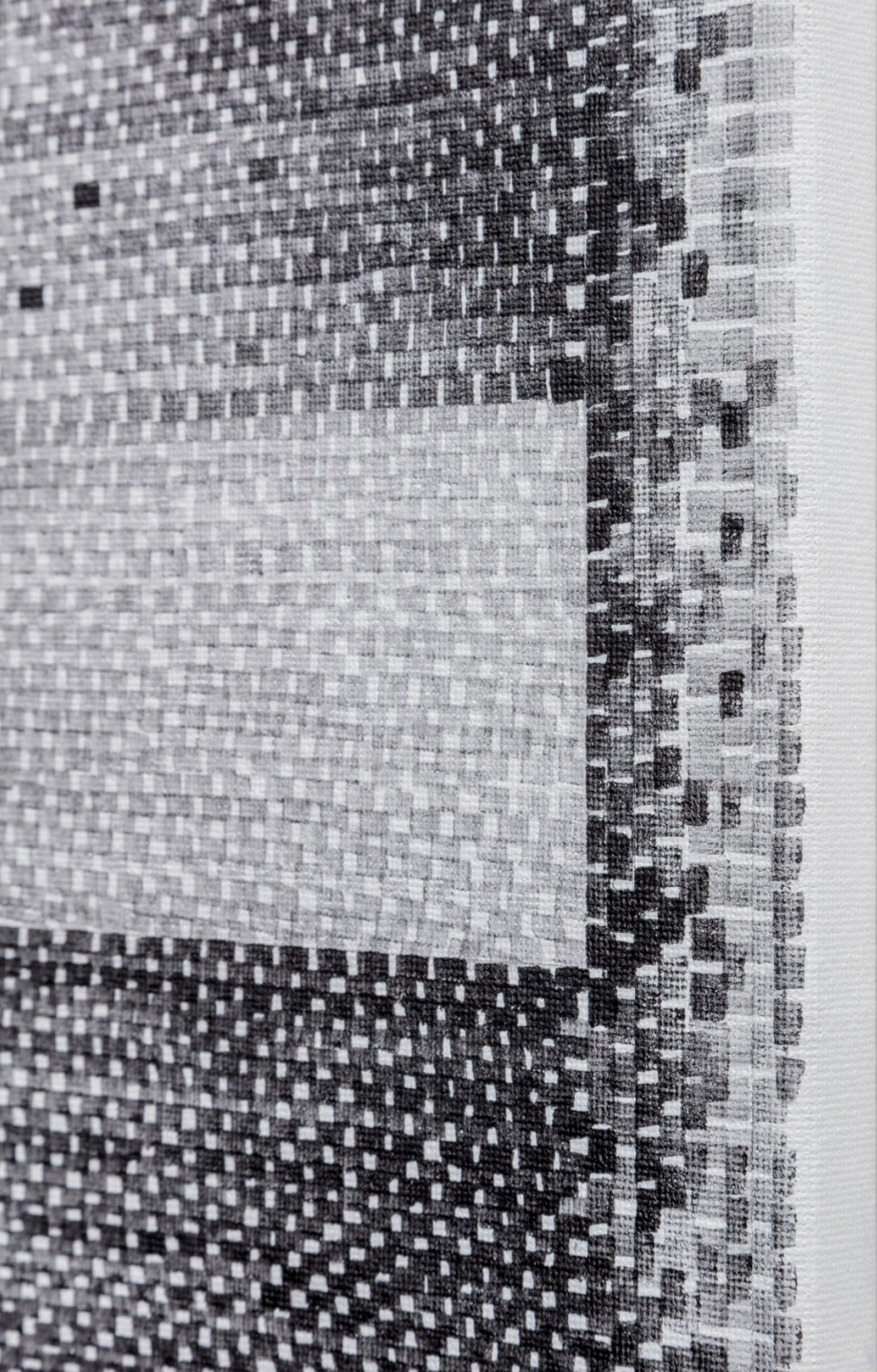
James Busby  
*Birds of a Feather*, 2023  
Graphite and gesso on panel, 14h x 18w inches / 35.5h x 45.7w cm







James Busby  
*All the Go In-Betweens*, 2023  
Water-soluble graphite on canvas, 12h x 16w inches / 30.5h x 40.6w cm



James Busby  
*All the Go In-Betweens* (detail)  
2023



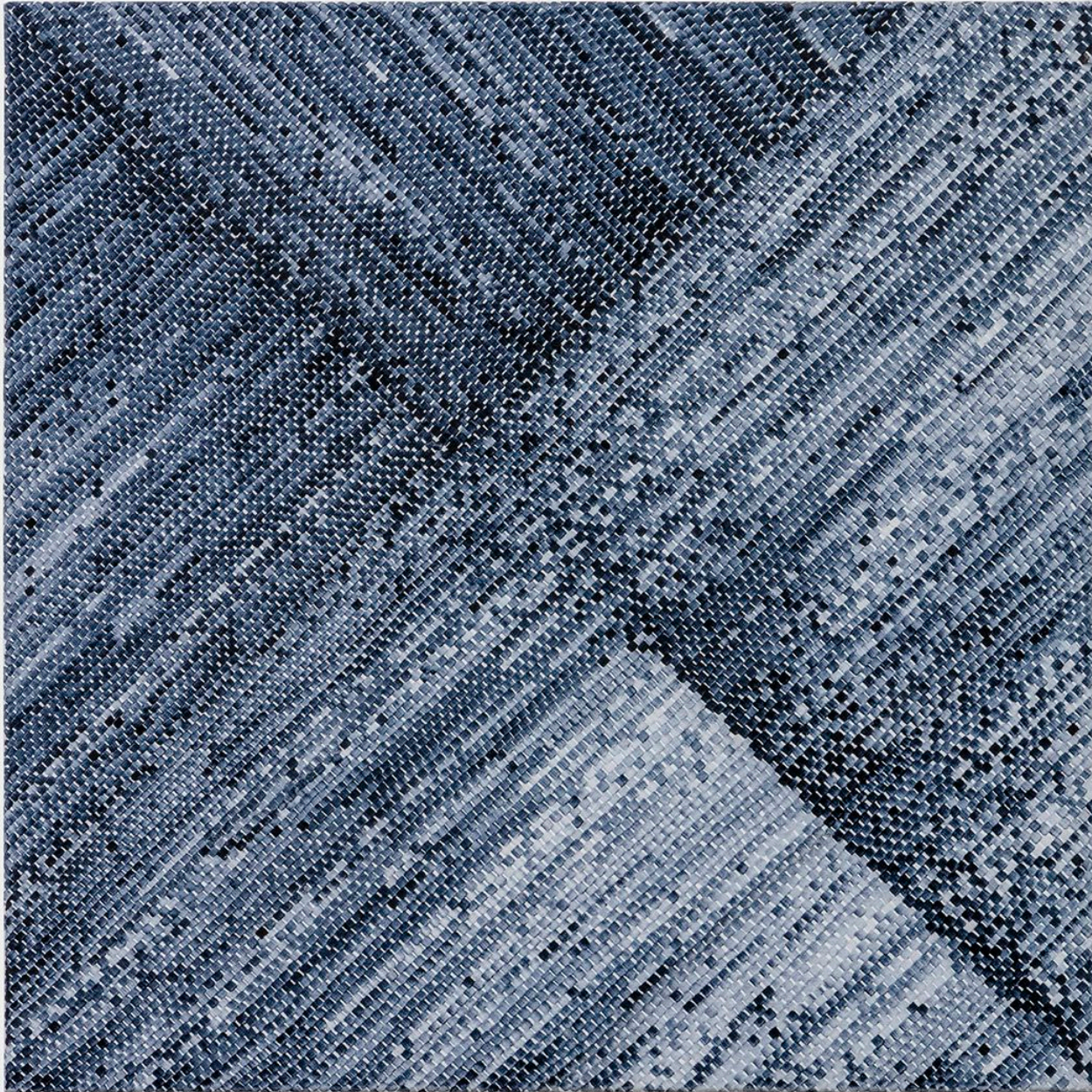
James Busby  
*Bird Stealing Bread*, 2023  
Graphite and gesso on panel, 16h x 20w inches / 40.6h x 51w cm



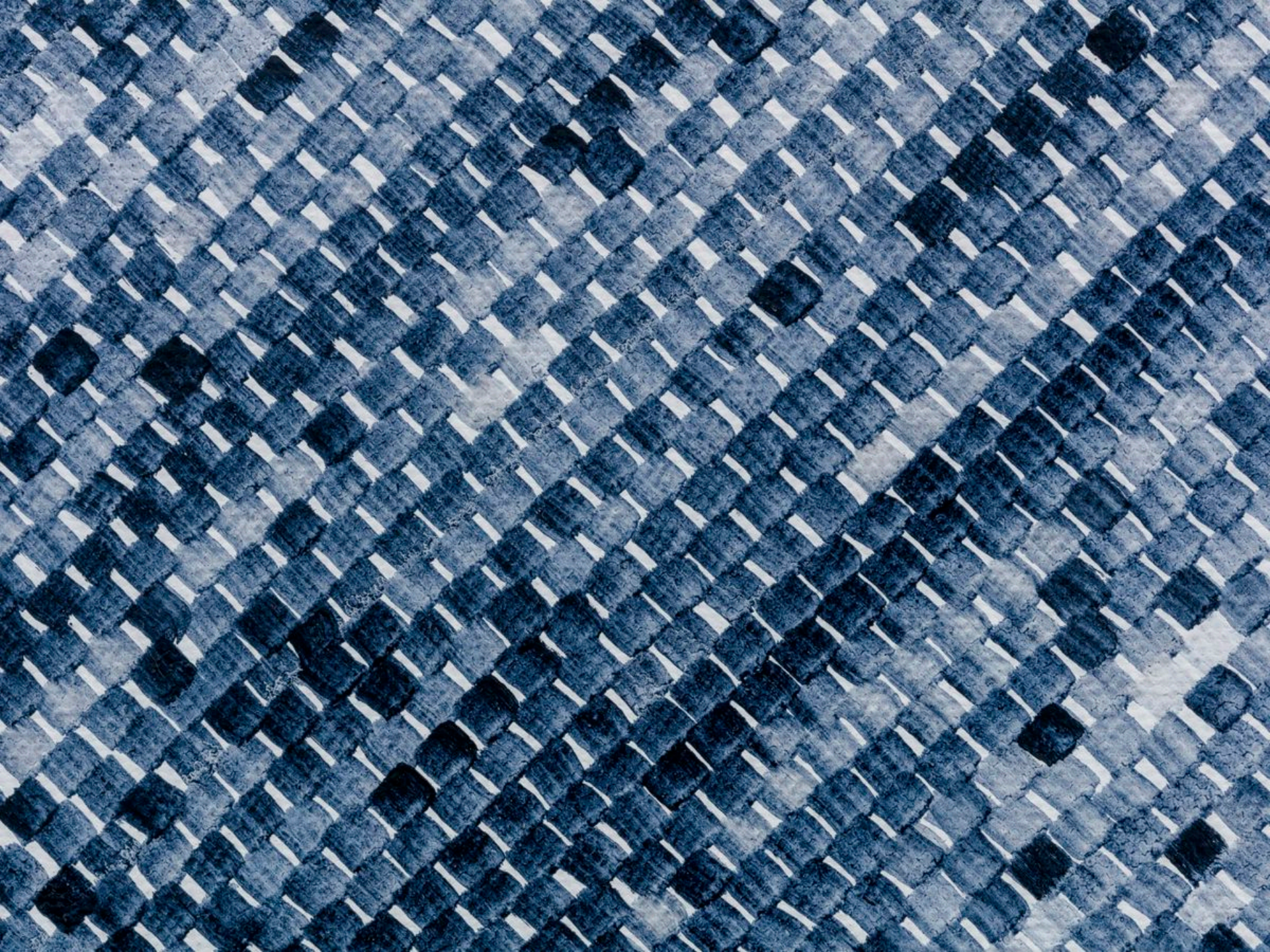
James Busby  
*Bird Stealing Bread* (side view)  
2023

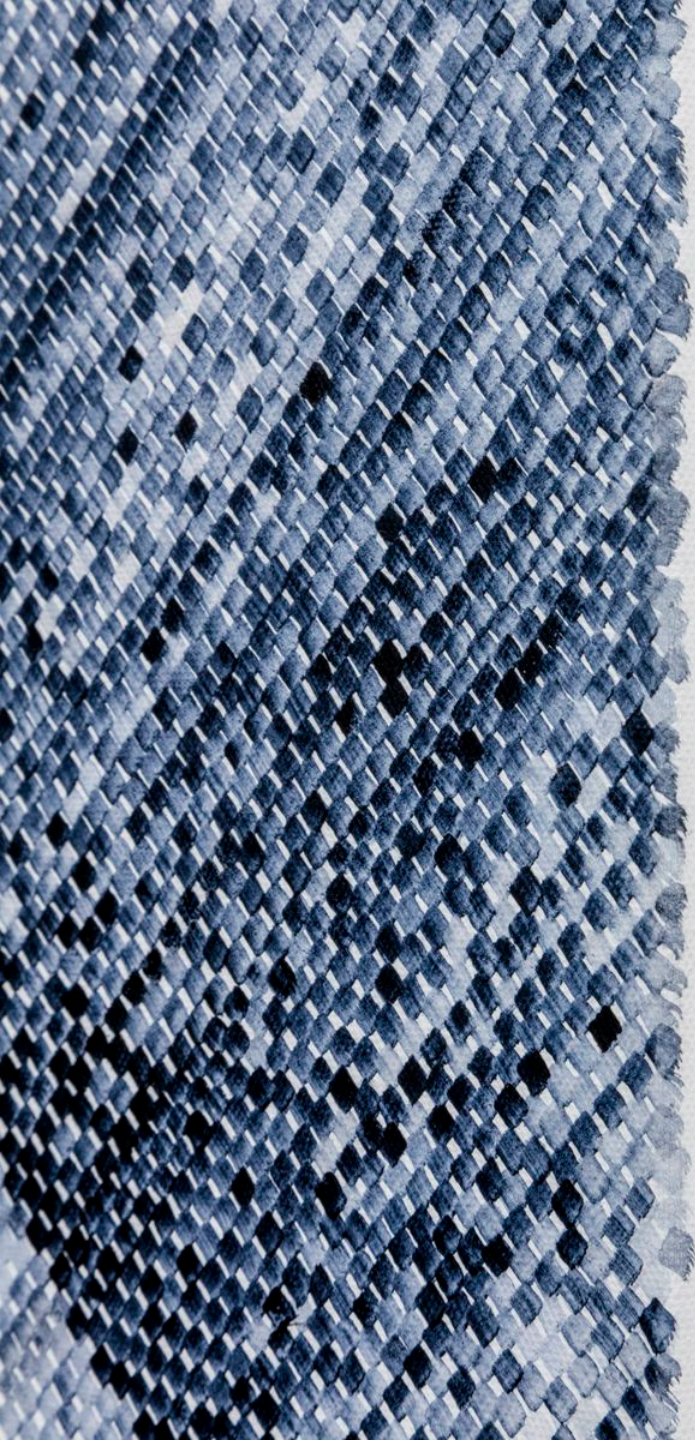


James Busby, *Bird Stealing Bread* (detail), 2023



*James Busby*  
*Sure Shot .2*  
2022  
Oil on canvas  
20h x 20w inches  
51h x 51w cm





James Busby  
*Sure Shot .2* (detail)  
2022





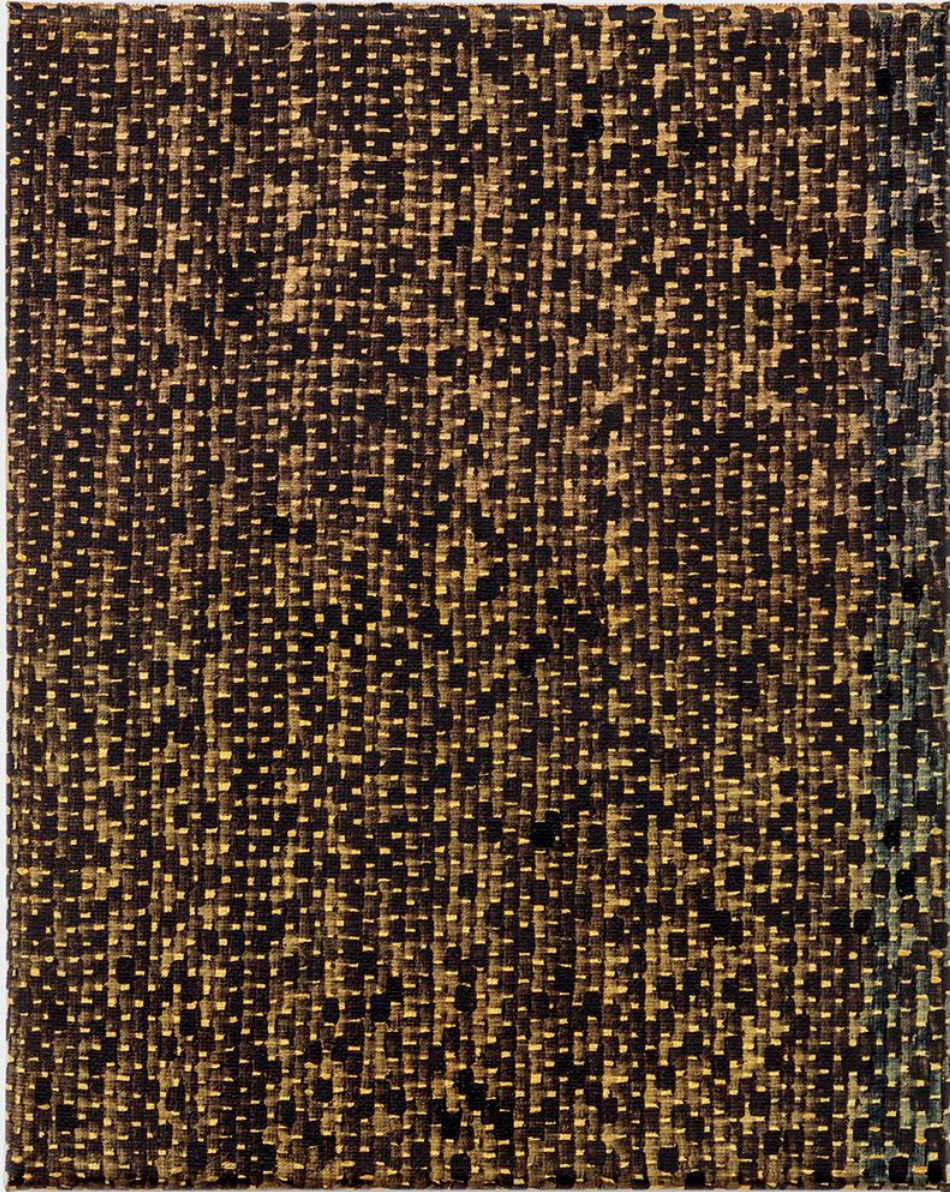


James Busby  
*Suspirium*  
2023  
Graphite and gesso on panel  
18h x 14w inches  
45.7h x 35.6w cm

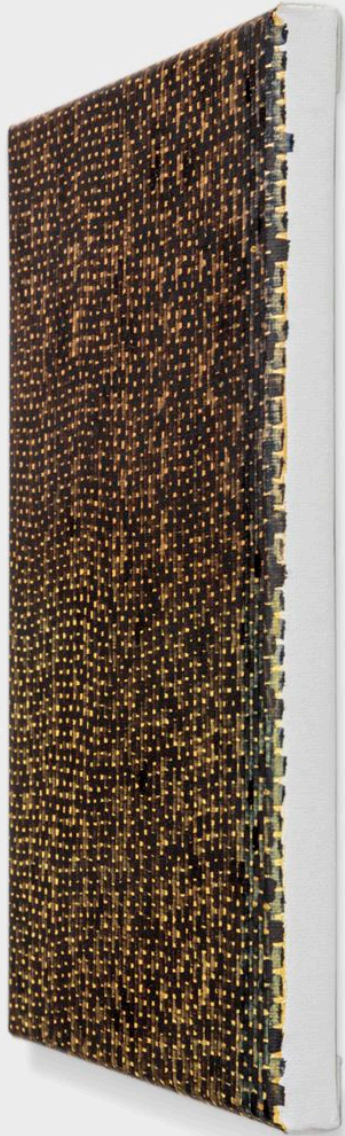


James Busby, *Suspirium* (detail), 2023





James Busby  
*Middle Distance Runner*  
2023  
Oil on canvas  
10h x 8w inches  
25.4h x 20.3w cm



James Busby  
*Middle Distance Runner* (side view)  
2023



James Busby  
*Dreamsicle*  
2023  
Graphite and gesso on panel  
20h x 16w inches  
50.8h x 40.6w cm



James Busby, *Dreamsicle* (detail), 2023





James Busby  
*Double Tracked*, 2023  
Graphite and gesso on panel  
11h x 14w inches / 28h x 35.6w cm

James Busby, *Double Tracked* (detail), 2023





James Busby  
*Folding Chair*, 2023  
Graphite and gesso on panel  
11h x 14w inches / 28h x 35.6w cm



James Busby  
*Folding Chair* (detail)  
2023



James Busby  
*Detlef Schremph #2*  
2019

Gesso, graphite, oil, and acrylic on wood  
24h x 17w inches  
61h x 43.2w cm



James Busby  
*Detlef Schrempf #2* (side view)  
2019



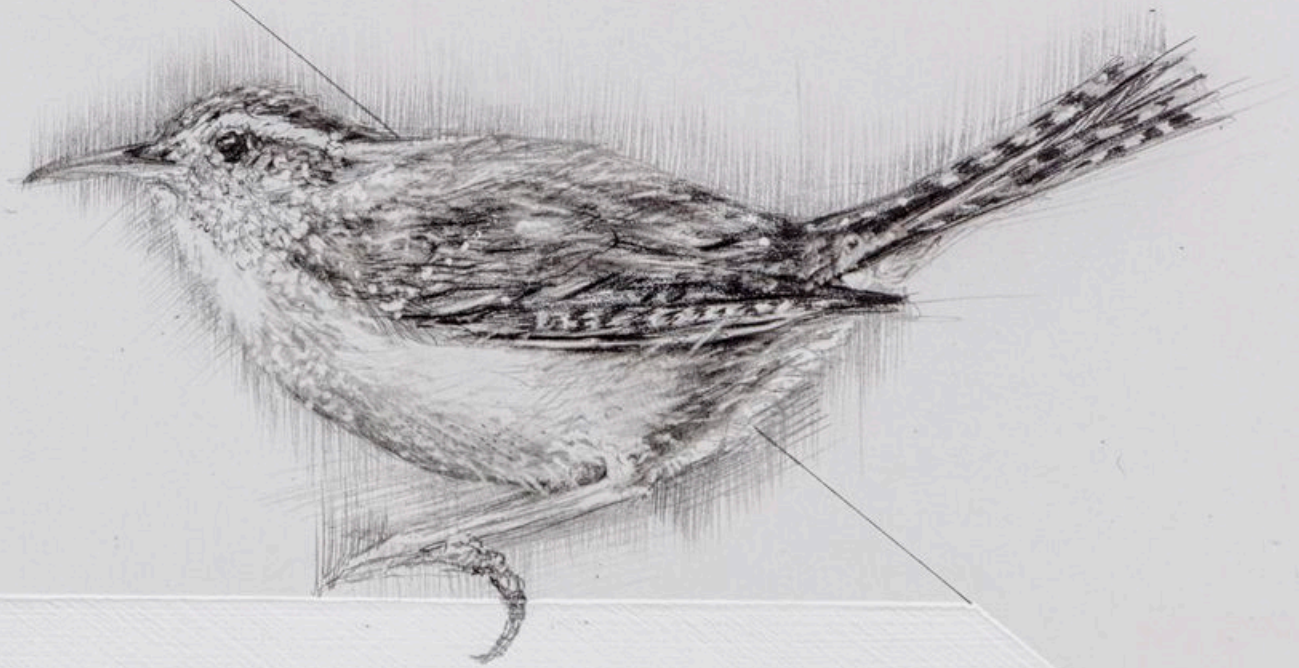
James Busby  
*Detlef Schremph #2 (detail)*  
2019







James Busby  
*Flying Over Water, 2023*  
Graphite and gesso on panel, 16h x 20w inches / 40.6h x 51w cm



James Busby, *Flying Over Water* (detail), 2023



James Busby  
*Trying to Catch a Deluge in a Paper Cup*  
2022  
Oil on canvas  
20h x 16w inches  
51h x 40.6w cm







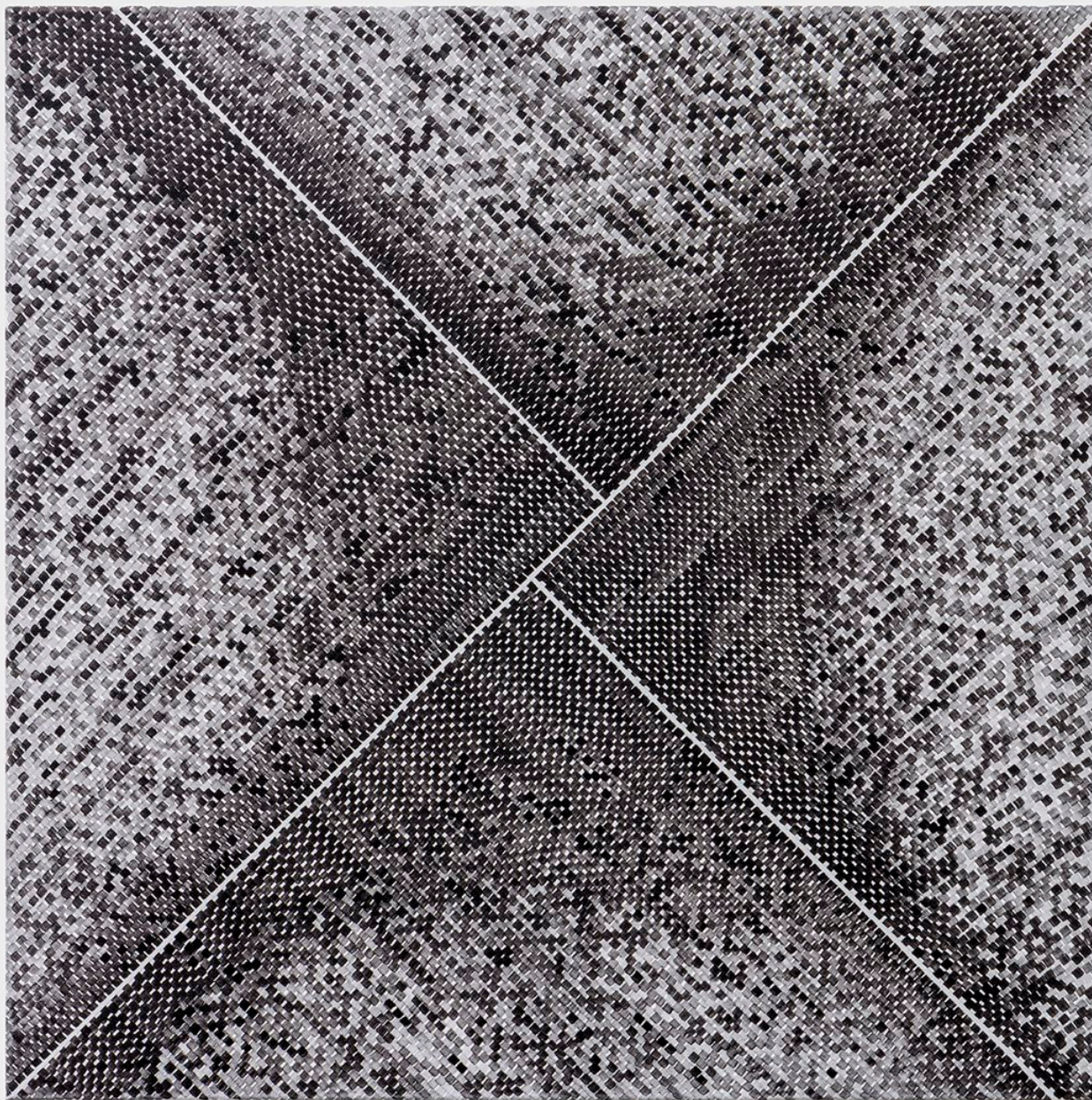
James Busby  
*Stacking Matches*, 2023  
Graphite and gesso on panel  
11h x 14w inches / 28h x 35.6w cm



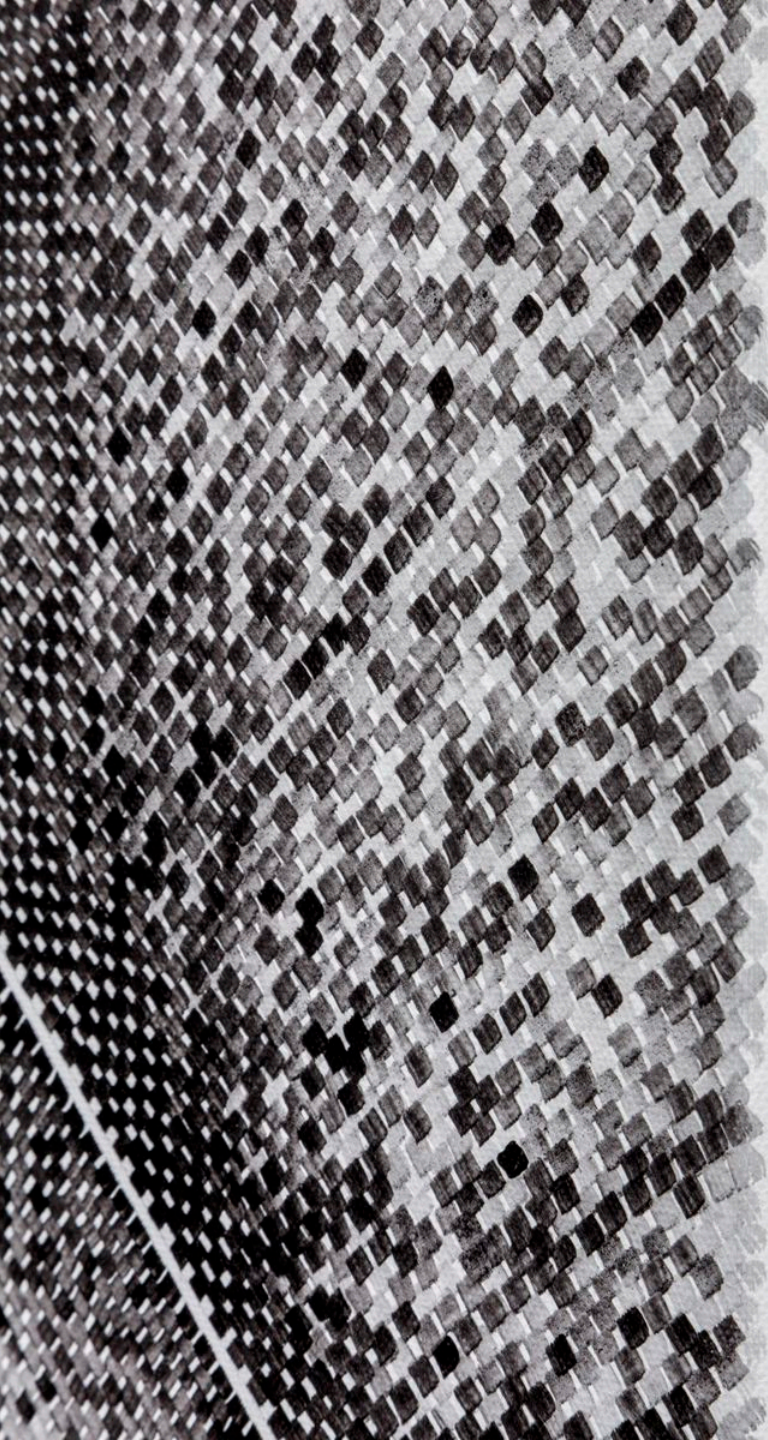
James Busby  
Stacking Matches (detail)  
2023







James Busby  
*Jewels & Gold*  
2023  
Oil on canvas  
20h x 20w inches  
51h x 51w cm



James Busby  
*Jewels & Gold* (detail)  
2023



James Busby  
*Sleeping Diagonally*, 2023  
Graphite, acrylic, and gesso on panel  
11h x 14w inches / 28h x 35.6w cm



James Busby  
*Soul Gravy*, 2023  
Graphite and gesso on panel, 16h x 20w inches / 40.6h x 51w cm



James Busby, *Soul Gravy* (detail), 2023



James Busby  
*Never Heard a Sound*  
2023  
Graphite and gesso on panel  
18h x 14w inches  
45.7h x 35.6w cm



James Busby, *Never Heard a Sound* (detail), 2023







James Busby  
*Sugar Rhyme*  
2023  
Graphite and gesso on panel  
18h x 14w inches  
45.7h x 35.6w cm

James Busby  
*Sugar Rhyme* (detail)  
2023



James Busby (b. Rock Hill, SC, 1973) lives and works in Chapin, South Carolina. Busby received his Master of Fine Arts and Bachelor of Fine Arts from Virginia Commonwealth University. He is an instructor of drawing at the University of South Carolina where he has taught since 2004. His work has been exhibited at galleries and museums including Kravets Wehby Gallery, New York, NY; Stefan Stux Gallery, New York, NY; Dirimart Galerie, Istanbul, Turkey; Reynolds Gallery, Richmond, VA; Randall Scott Projects, Baltimore, MD; Chelsea Art Museum, New York, NY; Dickinson Gallery, London, UK; Loyal Gallery, Stockholm, Sweden; Galerie Jean-Luc, Paris, France; South Carolina State Museum, Columbia, SC; and the University of Richmond Museum, Richmond, VA. James Busby's work has been reviewed and discussed in *ArtForum*, *Sculpture Magazine*, *The Washington Post*, and *White Hot Magazine of Contemporary Art*, amongst others.