



**Sympathy for Future Dreamers**  
*acrylic on paper mounted on panel, 2016 \$650*



**Love Letter to a Family**  
*acrylic on paper mounted on panel, 2016 \$350*



**Frail Forms in Pink**  
*acrylic on paper mounted on panel, 2016 \$350*

## ARTIST STATEMENT

Christopher St. John lives and works in Portland, Oregon. His work touches on the impact of place on the shape of our lives, the vocabulary of form, the figure, and the joy of impermanence. Occasionally, rabbits make appearances in his work. Christopher St. John's work has been exhibited and collected across the United States and internationally in France, Sweden, Japan, Canada, and Malta. He received his BFA from the University of Alaska at Fairbanks. His work is in the permanent collections of museums and universities in the United States. Christopher St. John is very happy to call the Pacific Northwest his homeland.

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

For many years, my figurative work chronicled the self-destructive urges that seem to be consuming us as a nation. I worked to craft a figurative gestalt that I felt revealed the essence of that despair, that nervous frenzy, that queer dislocation that pervades everything in this country; a country which has been at war since 2001. To my surprise, the most receptive audience for this vision was the French and I continue to have a loyal following in that country. But the logical path laid out by that body of work was to a deep dark place that would only end in my destruction. Such is the path of art. When you shine a light into the ocean at night the cold dark sucks the feeble light and wants to take you with it. I can't only be an artist for the French. I have been wanting to free my work and move it into light and into a place where I can play with color and form and space. As Debussy wrote, sound and color should be adequate to express ideas, and I simply wish to be free as possible to move in light and in love. The darkness will always have its place. When I first began painting, it was abstract art that initially called me, and at this stage in my life I find it to be a welcome friend and a return to home.



**Summer Fields**  
*acrylic on paper mounted on panel, 2016 \$475*