

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BankRI Galleries Present Painter Gib Smith at its Pitman Street Gallery in Providence
Local artist's works on display now through September 4

Providence, R.I. (July 22, 2024) – BankRI Galleries is pleased to present work by Rhode Island painter Gib Smith at its Pitman Street Gallery, located at 137 Pitman Street on Providence's East Side. The installation is on display now through September 4.

MEET THE ARTIST

A native of Rhode Island, Gib Smith was born in Providence and spent most of his adult life in New York. He attended Edinburgh College and California College of Arts. In the 1980s, Gib was active in exhibiting his work in progressive New York museum MoMA PS1, and galleries such as White Columns, Gladstone Gallery, and the Aaron Berman Gallery.

As a sculptor in New York in the 1980s, Gib rarely gave himself permission to indulge color, shape, form, and line. His current work, abstract paintings and collages, is the exact opposite. Fluid ribbons of transparent texture float in brightly colored grounds, a choreography of form. Evoking candied marzipan, gift wrapped ribbons gone rouge or photograms each painting has its own ethos, spunky, salty or simply present, their personalities an amalgam of flowing shapes.

Never far from vast bodies of water, the movement of natural cycles permeates Gib's work. Using acrylics and oils, his bold colors and non-linear shapes make for dynamic constructions, forcing the viewer to pause and study its contours. A painter who began with sculpture, Gib brings his understanding of volume, construction and form to each of his one-dimensional works.

"What speaks to me are pathways, in life and art," he says. "I always liked games that had at their core a possible course, though maybe not easy, from place to place. I'm also inspired by the magician and audience. The magician uses his physical and mental dexterity and if it works, the audience is enthralled. Art can be very much like that."

BankRI invites you to view Gib's works at our Pitman Street Branch now through September 4, 2024. Branch hours for Pitman Street and its gallery are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. For more information, visit bankri.com or call the branch at (401) 456-5160.

###

The BankRI Galleries are curated by Willamain Somma. For additional information and images, contact her at willysomma@gmail.com or (917) 374-3262.

Attached image files: **Big Mustard**, 48X48 inches, and **Light Red**, 24X24 inches.

