

INNOCENCE!

SULK CHICAGO is proud to present *INNOCENCE*, a solo show of paintings by Jake Fagundo.

INNOCENCE is defined by a distinct split in imagery. Photographic and video-based images from Fagundo's childhood are gesturally re-represented and posed in seemingly direct opposition to paintings of state and federal investigative documents. Both serve as proofs to us as well as to Fagundo; proof of a past innocence, as well as proof of his incarceration and the then-impending court case. Leaving all of us, including him, wondering what happened and if federal indictment makes him any less of the boy who once paraded around dressed as Dracula?

Nevertheless, there we were wondering not only what happened, but more importantly, what was going to happen? While meditating on twenty years ago, Fagundo was simultaneously meditating on a potential twenty-year prison sentence. Appropriating images that indicate a future and past to process this duality oddly places the work in the here and now. Just as much as they are reflections of an endearing childhood gone by and the anticipation of a not so hopeful future, in combination, the paintings serve as snapshots of the purgatory Fagundo found himself in right then, and right there, as he painted them. That is to say, *INNOCENCE* is not only about the reality of what has passed and what was to come, but about the present reality of looking both ways.

Regardless of the legal case, there is a universal sadness about the work that lies in the inevitable loss of innocence that accompanies growing up, a sadness in the necessarily ambiguous nature of the future, and a sadness in the present recognition of each. And while the paintings are certainly evidence of Fagundo wondering if he had thrown it all away, they are also proof to him and to us that he didn't.

Text by Max Capus

INNOCENCE is on view at SULK CHICAGO from September 10 through October 31, 2021.

Please contact info@sulkchicago.com to schedule an appointment or inquire about pricing.

1. *Hope it don't rain all day, 2021*

48 x 60 in

Oil on canvas

2. *If you stay with us, you're gonna be pretty kookie too, 2021*

60 x 48 in

Oil on canvas

3. *Like a bell through the night, 2021*

60 x 48 in

Oil on canvas

4. *A creature void of form, 2021*

60 x 48 in

Oil on canvas

5. *Watch 'em come to life right before your eyes, 2021*

16 x 20 in

Oil on canvas

6. *Here's your man, I got proof, 2020*

60 x 48 in

Oil on canvas

7. *Anger is an energy, 2021*

16 x 20 in

Oil on canvas

8. *Ain't no way in the world I'm goin' out that front door, 2021*

16 x 20 in

Oil on canvas

9. *Model citizen in every way, 2021*

16 x 20 in

Oil on canvas

10. *Always be a good boy and never play with guns, 2020*

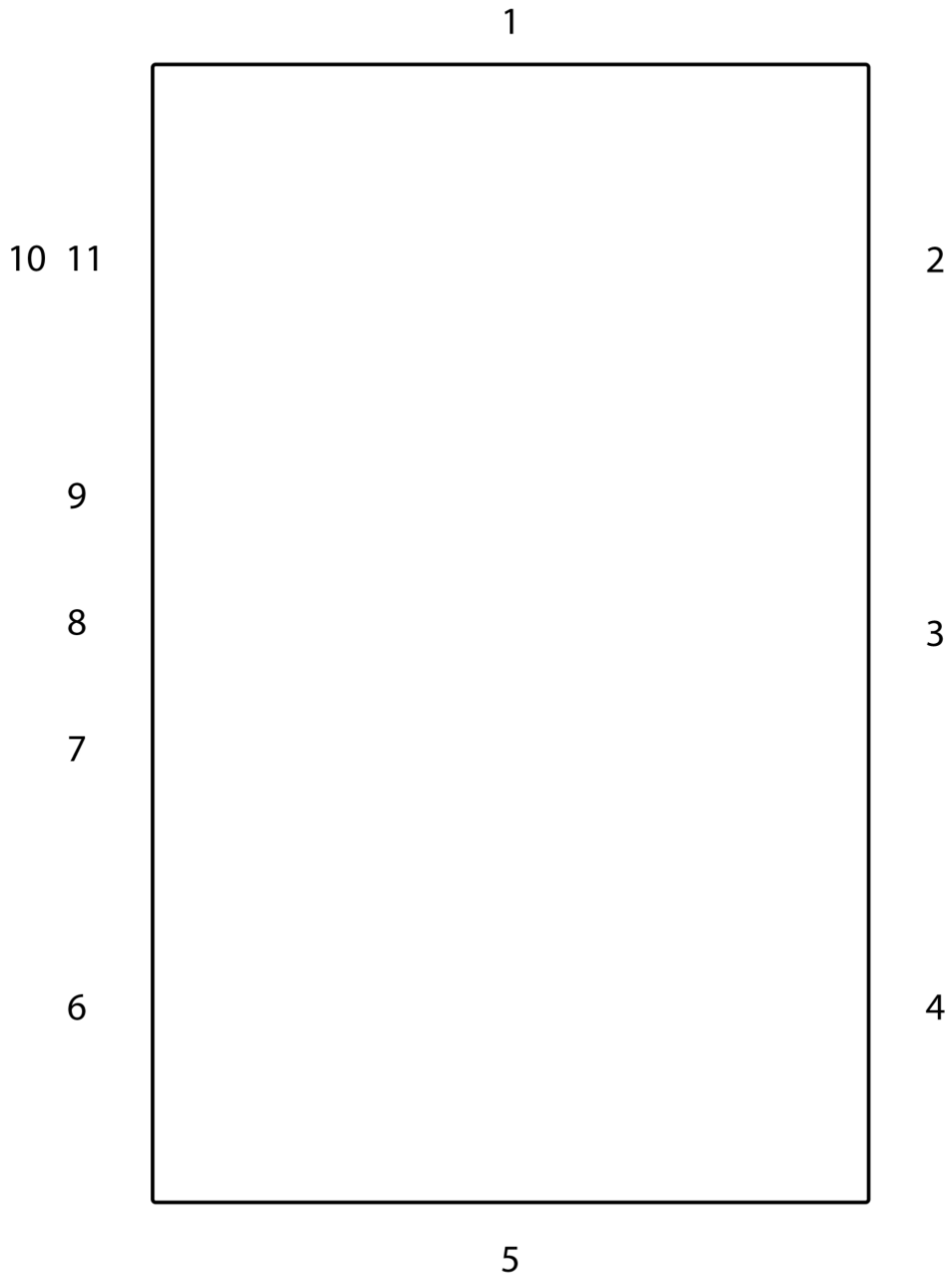
16 x 20 in

Oil on canvas

11. *Welcome to the terrordome, 2020*

16 x 20 in

Oil on canvas



SULK CHICAGO
525 S Dearborn St.



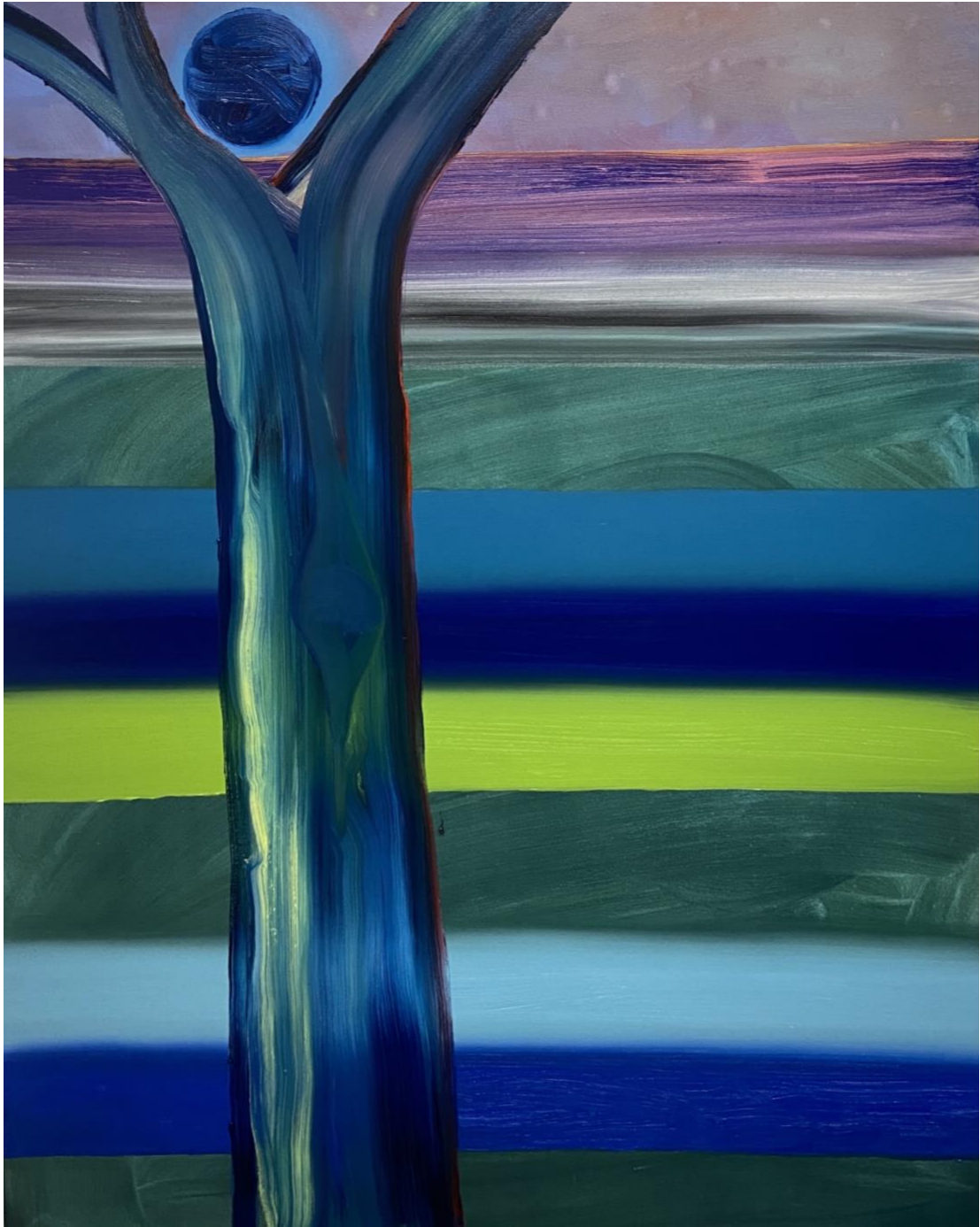
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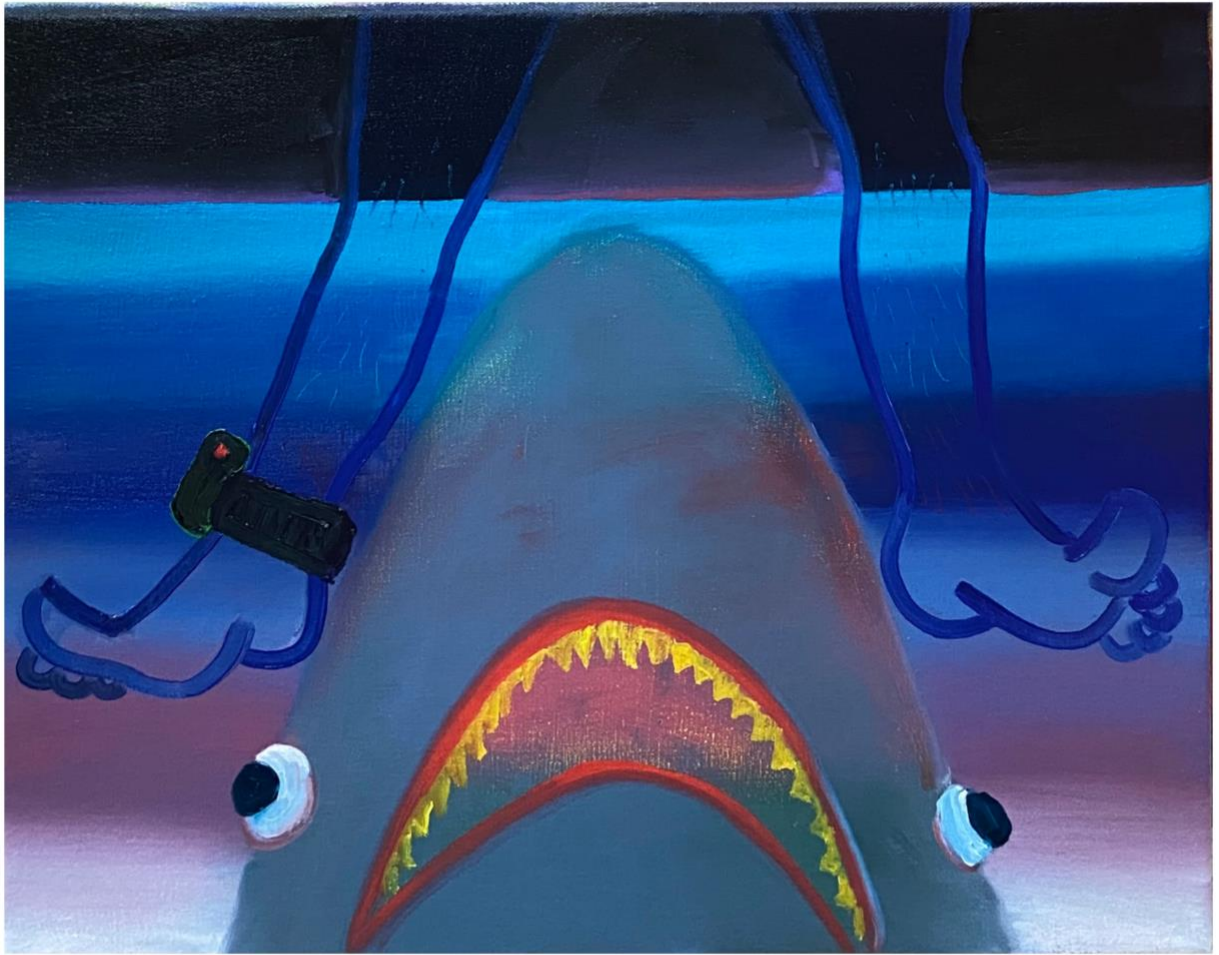
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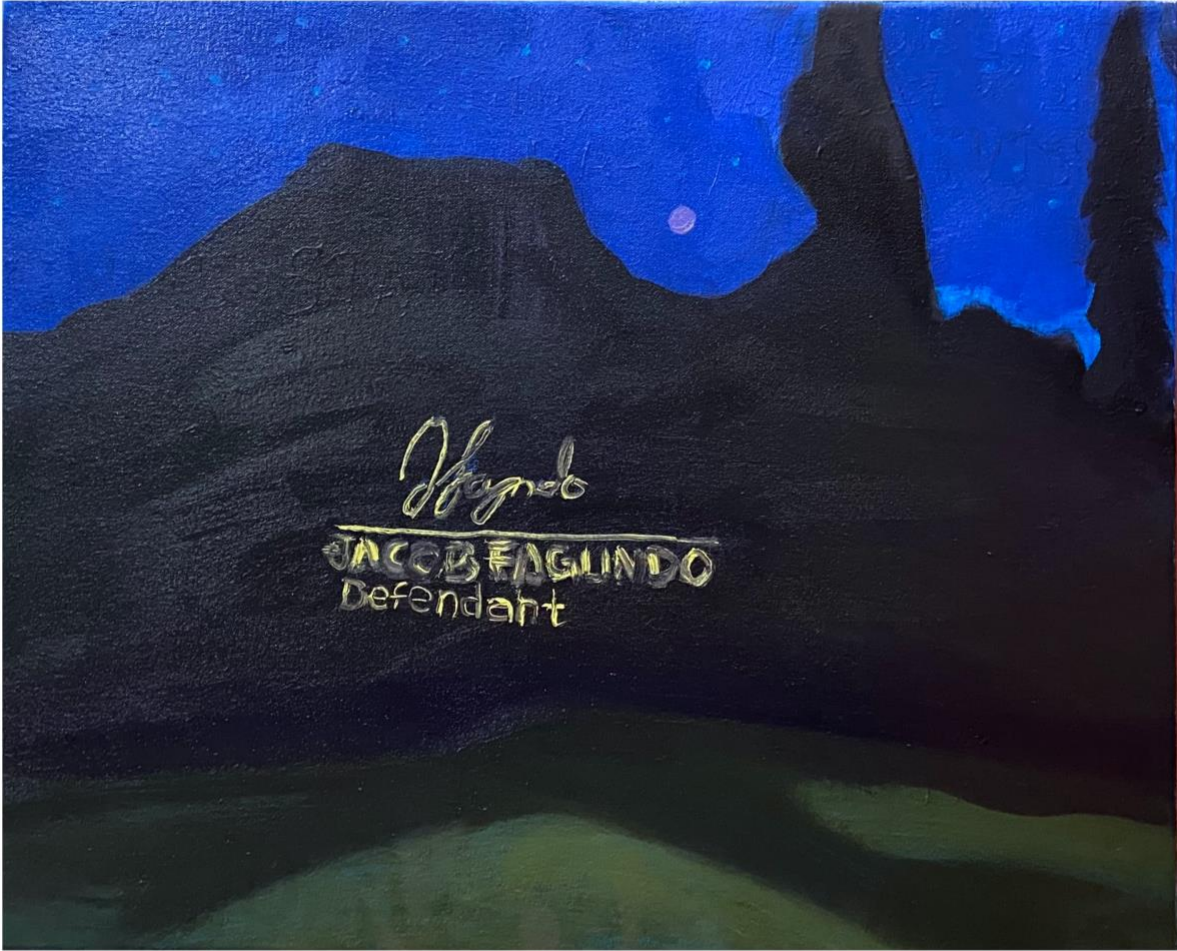
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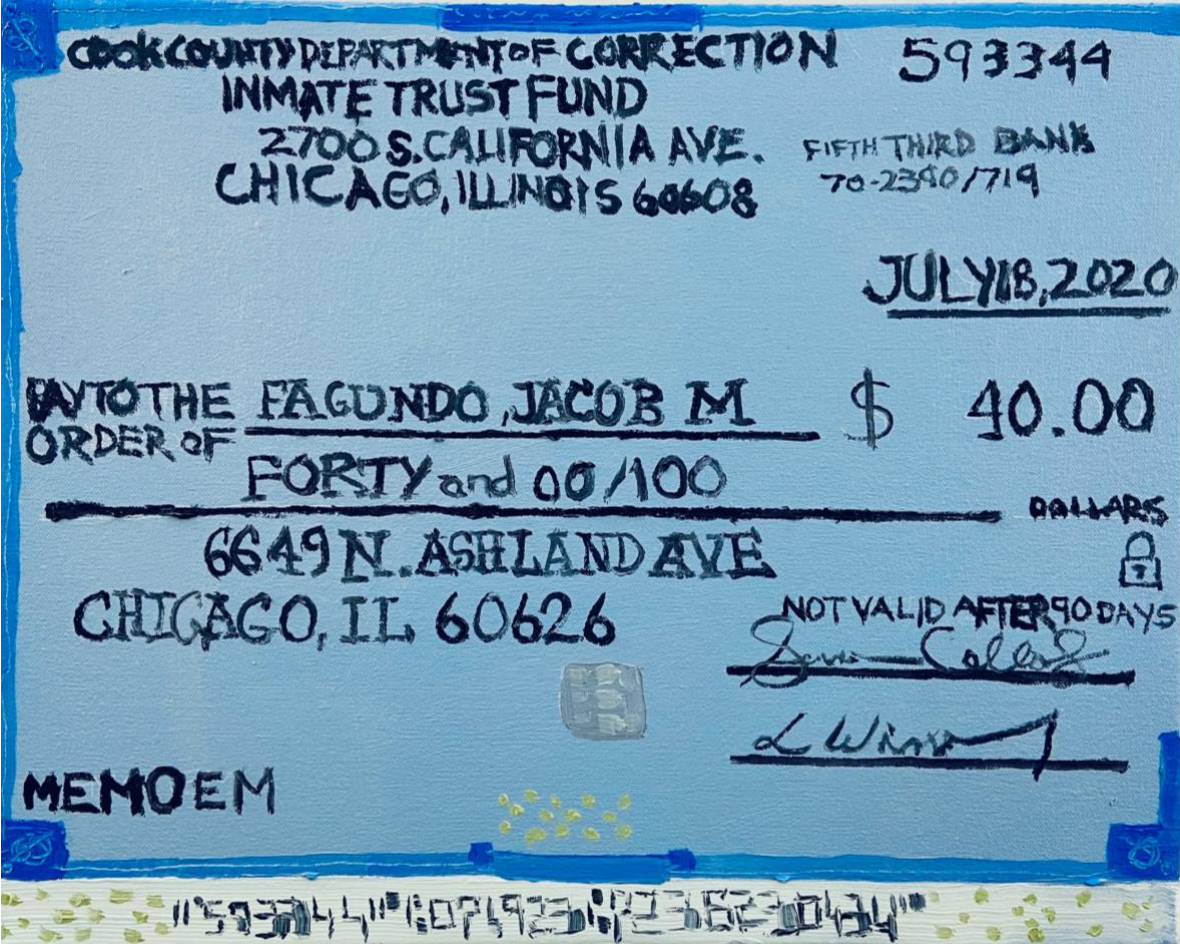
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