

Maureen O'Hara Ure

This series of paintings, “Art and Art History”, picks up where my 2024 solo show at Phillips Gallery left off. My interest in historical sources, my obsessive mark-making, and the layering of mixed media are all elements that will be recognized by those acquainted with my work.

Travel---leaving home and the familiar in search of stimuli---continues to be a major influence on my development as an artist. Recently, I had the opportunity to travel throughout Spain three years in a row. On returning to my studio, I would start to tinker with some of the ideas from the pages of my travel sketchbooks to develop new paintings on panel. Several of those works make up my most recent artist’s book, *Thirty Days in Spain*, however, as a somewhat obsessive revisionist, I kept altering some of those images before presenting them here at the gallery.

While most all this show features work resolved the past two years, I decided to include a few older works. When sidelined for several weeks by an August dog walking accident and subsequent surgery, away from my University teaching and studio routines, I had time to consider which of the paintings on my walls at home, which parts of my art history, still resonated with me, and I have included those works here.

*The artist would like to acknowledge her two studio assistants, Hannah Carr and Lucas Bogdan, University of Utah Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program students. Their intelligent, good-natured help preparing panels for this exhibition proved invaluable.*