



C O C O O N

W I N T E R S O L S T I C E 2 1 / 2 2

B Y C H A R L I E R Y A N



*A Smoking Ceremony performed in my backyard with friends (Winter Solstice 2019)
Tullach Ard' Bunurong / Boon Wurrung Country, Red Hill, Australia*

MANIFESTO I

All I am, is but time and energy.
And I intend to use it.

***For the support and encouragement of these two collections,
I'd like to thank and acknowledge the following friends and family:***

Tash, Bella, Christopher, Navy and Hugo

My Dad, Gee (Gerald). And my Mum, Sue.

*Andrew Ryan and Charmaine Monteiro, Elizabeth and Charlie McDevitt,
Edward Ryan and Morgan Lacey and Felicity Ryan. With special mentions
to Bella, Camilla, Mary, Lucy, James, George, William, Patrick, Lachie and Liam.*

*Sarah Kofi Yeboah, Sarah Saxton and Tom McCarthy, Alyce and Lucas Blanck
of Kerri Greens Winery.*

Kate Bowman and Steve Harris of Stoker Studio.

*Reinier van Vurre, Daryl Holmes, Martina and Mark Richardson,
Mitch Clark, Lauren Morris, Boats, Winston Lee of Magic Frames, Robert Langlois,
Neil and Bernie Carabine, Neil and Tania Bryson of Frogs Pond Vineyard,
Sally Gudgeon and Lindsay McCall of Paringa Estate, Mick Hamilton of Bonza Brewery,
Sui and Stephen Tham of Cape Schanck Olive Estate, the Team at Jetty Road Brewery,
Pippa and James Mcleod of Pippa's Kitchen, James Baker and our team at Five Creative.*

***I recognise and pay my respects to the Bunurong and Boon Wurrung people
as the traditional custodians of the land on which I live and work.***

Cocoon Series I and II - Print Edition I, June 2022

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COCOON

Series I and II

The beginning of something.

Representing the things we can
create and contribute after a state
of reflection or hibernation.

These beautifully paired works embody
our universally entwined connection
between nature, selfhood and community.

And that of our participation with this infinite,
yet delicate kinship.

**Series I
Winter Solstice 2021
18-20 June**

Kerri Greens Winery
Red Hill, Australia
Bunurong / Boon Wurrung
Country

**Series II
Winter Solstice 2022
24 June - 10 July**

Stoker Studio
Mornington, Australia
Bunurong / Boon Wurrung
Country



CHARLIE RYAN

B. 1984
Narm, Wurundjeri Country
Melbourne, Australia

Charlie Ryan is a contemporary artist and designer, planted on Bunurong / Boon Wurrung Country in the hinterlands of the Mornington Peninsula, Australia.

His artworks entwine our unbounded connection between nature, selfhood, kinship and community. With his paintings predominantly portraying formed natural abstracts, complementing his further works in contemporary design, illustration and writing.

A lifetime artist and creative, he was guided at a young age by his father, Gee Ryan (artist), who introduced him to a variety of traditional painting styles, along with a distinct appreciation and love of colour. And later studied at the renowned Brighton Bay Art, Design and Photography Program in Melbourne and at the Arts Academy at the University of Ballarat.

Charlie is the Creative Director of design agency, Five Creative, which he co-founded in 2009 with good friend, James Baker.

A passionate and active member of the community, Charlie has previously held the position of councilor at the Australian Graphic Design Association (AGDA) and is a current committee member of the Red Hill Football Netball Club. As well as a volunteer firefighter with the Red Hill Brigade (CFA).

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Follow

[@bycharlieryan](#)

[@fivecreative](#)

[@vforvictoriaus](#)

Website

www.charlieryan.com.au

*To my community,
thank you for being so welcoming,
supportive and beautiful.*

S E R I E S I
W I N T E R S O L S T I C E 2 0 2 1



OVERTURE

Above the front door hung the remnants of a cocoon – most likely from a moth or butterfly. The creature had long since taken flight, but the cocoon still hung beautifully and metaphorically above my doorway. And would do so for the remainder of that year.

From the very beginning, I felt a strong suspicion that the universe had scooped me up and plonked me exactly where I needed to be.

From this sanctuary I had a community, a garden, a fireplace, space to grow and the freedom to breath. Privileges I did not wish nor want for a moment to spare.

COCOON

If twenty-twenty was anything, it was simply the start of something.

The next ten years will see not just big changes required to support our endangered environment, but also the continued progression towards a fairer and safer community around us.

As an artist and designer, I have always felt a deep responsibility to not only create for myself, but use what I have and can do to contribute towards my community and the world around me.

So when the events of twenty-twenty began to unfold, and without agenda nor strategy, I found myself more and more consumed in creative ideas and projects that could help benefit and support my greater community.

Projects that wielded both art and design. Collaborations with my team at Five Creative and with businesses and community groups right across the country.

And whilst I was full of time and energy, what I regularly lacked were quick and accessible funds on hand. And whilst some projects took off, others could not.

So on the Winter Solstice of twenty-twenty, I began to develop this collection as an idea.

To make a statement for not just the next ten years, but for the next twelve. A statement that announced my intention to create more and more creative projects that can continue to help benefit and support my greater community – wherever and whatever they may be. And in doing so, to create one unique and beautiful collection of artworks, each year for the next twelve years.

And although each piece would have its own beautiful story told in colour and texture, they would themselves represent a statement of an entwining connection between the artist and their beholder.

And that beautiful 'Cocoon' that hung above my doorway in twenty-twenty represented the perfect metaphor for this collection.

*Charlie Ryan
Winter Solstice 2021*

It started inside my mind. Those colours, the energy. A memento to that raw and beautiful year. Of the rocks inside my gut and the fire inside my bones.



Cocoons I and II

2020-21

Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas

H 61cm x W 51cm

(Framed in Oak)



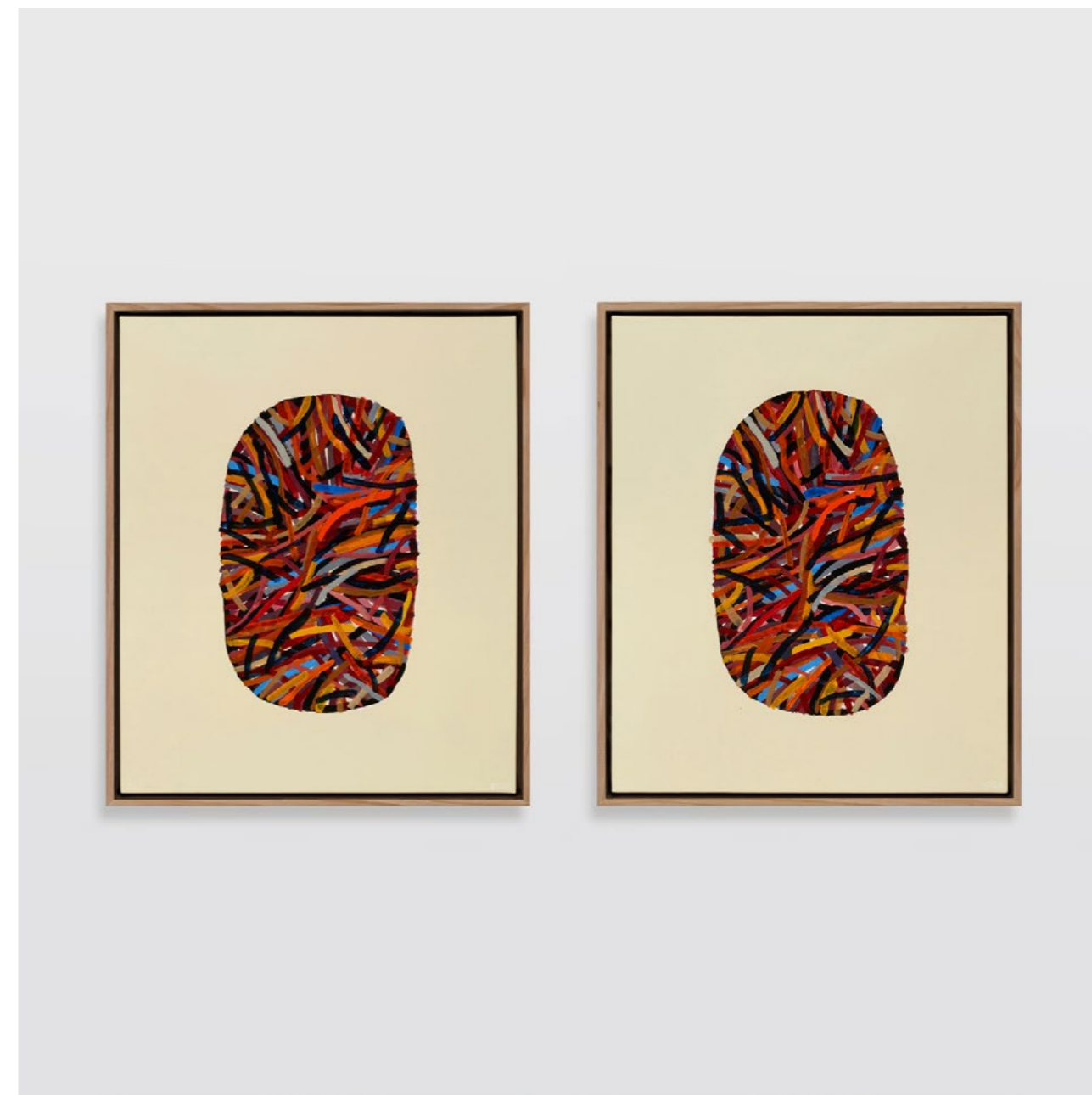
Cocoons III and IV

2021

Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas

H 61cm x W 51cm

(Framed in Oak)



Cocoons V and VI

2021

Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas

H 61cm x W 51cm

(Framed in Oak)



Cocoons VII and VIII

2021

Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas

H 61cm x W 51cm

(Framed in Oak)



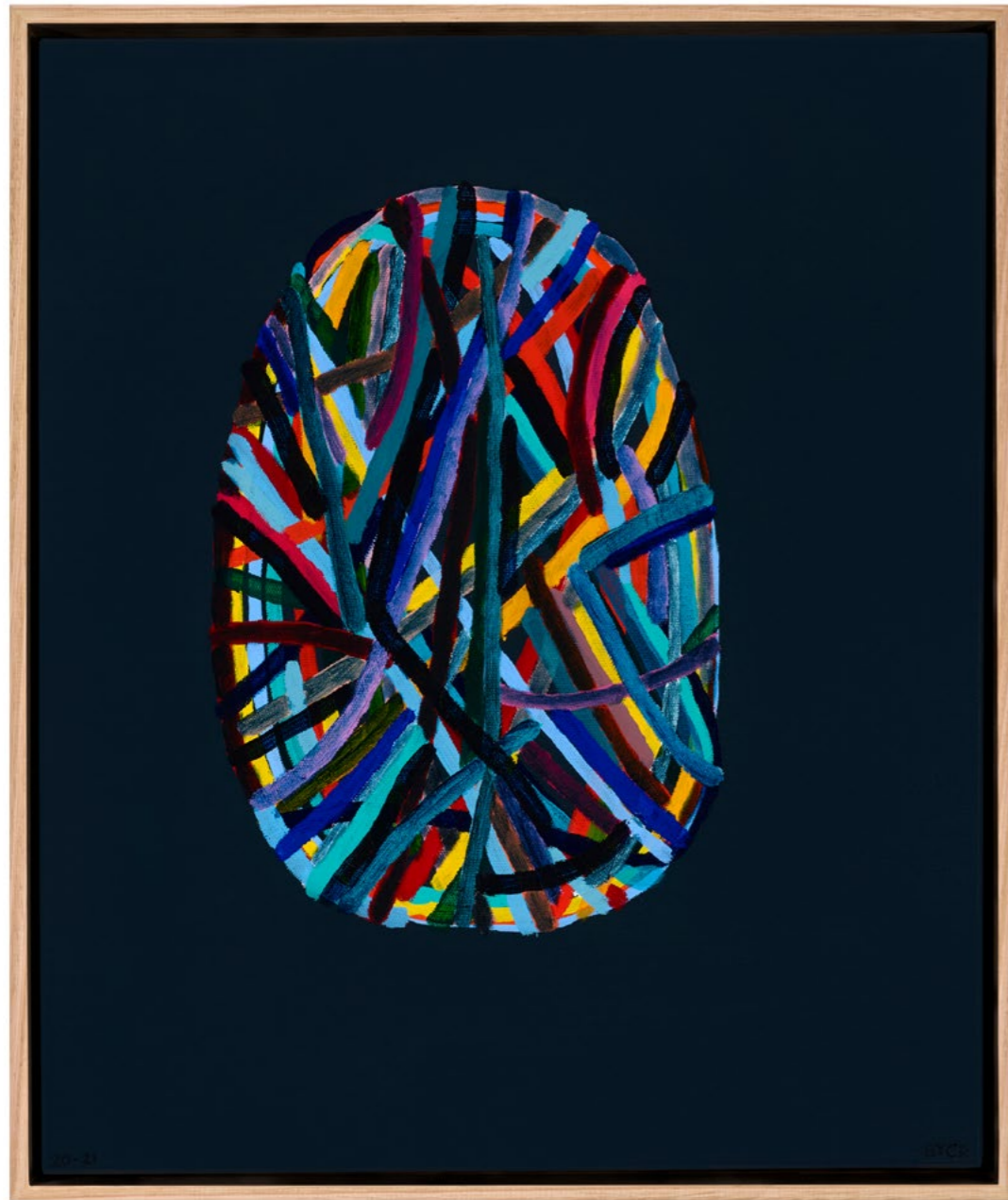
Cocoons IX and X

2021

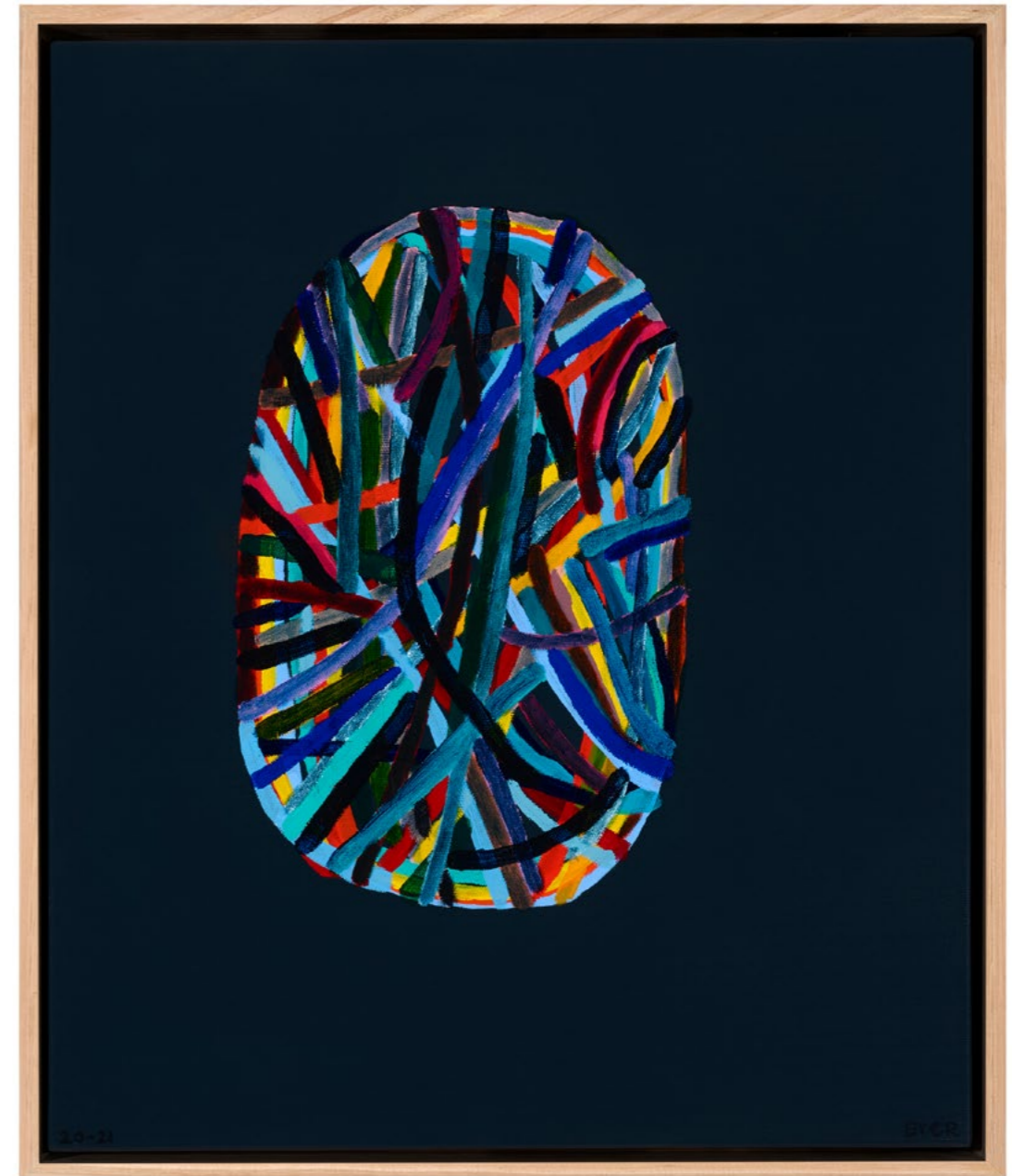
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas

H 61cm x W 51cm

(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon I
2020-21
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon II
2020-21
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon III
2021
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon IV
2021
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon V
2021
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon VI
2021
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon VII
2021
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon VIII
2021
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon IX
2021
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon X
2021
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)

2020

If the beautiful cocoon that had hung above my doorway in twenty-twenty represented my own patronage towards the support and production of my own creative projects within the community, this page would represent my 'Year in Review':



A collaboration with Melbourne stationery institution **Zetta Florence**, Charlie Ryan produced two original limited edition prints to help raise money for the communities and wildlife recovering from the 2019-20 'Black Summer' bushfire crisis in Australia.

January 2020

Red Hill Relief was originally established to hold a one-off event on St Valentine's Day 2020 that raised over \$50,000 to support the Victorian communities and wildlife effected by the devastating 2019-20 'Black Summer' bushfire crisis.

This included a commissioned work that Charlie Ryan donated towards the silent auction on the night, which raised \$750 towards the final tally.

The associated group, founded by Renee Bowker, Fiona Robison, Jannicke Langseth, Shawne Rubinstein and Charlie Ryan plans on holding an annual event to support different issues effecting the community

January 2020 - Present

Hopen for Business was launched as a campaign to support local businesses across the Mornington Peninsula, in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis that was unfolding across the community.

The self-funded collaboration with Five Creative provided a free and easy to navigate online directory for businesses and locals to interact with and view which businesses were still open across the region.

April - September 2020



V for Victori was started in response to Victoria's second Lockdown restrictions in August 2020, with the not-for-profit project sharing an ongoing campaign for heart, hope and solidarity, predominately filling traditional print and digital advertising spaces – selling nothing, but uplifting and unifying messages to help lift community spirit and celebrate togetherness across state and territory borders.

The project has been completely self-funded, relying on the wonderful support and generosity of sponsorship, donations and merchandise sales to help grow and share the campaign.

The creation of 'V for Victori (Victori-a, Victori-aus)', which up-cycled the original Winston Churchill 'V for Victory' (and peace symbol of the sixties and seventies) was re-purposed to represent our united fight for victory against COVID-19 and its greater flow-on effects in our greater community across Victoria, Australia and beyond.

August 2020 - Present

The **Autumnal** Typeface is an ongoing project sharing beautifully crafted words pasted on suburban walls, in the form of a natural leafy typeface designed by Charlie Ryan.

May 2020 - Present



2021-22

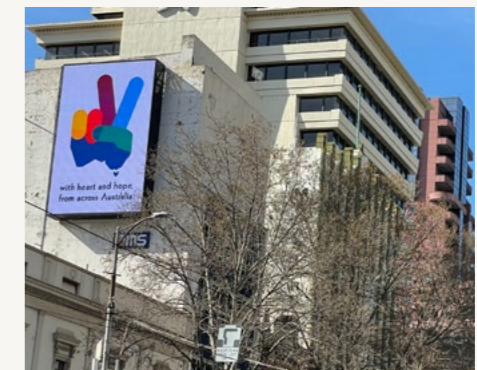
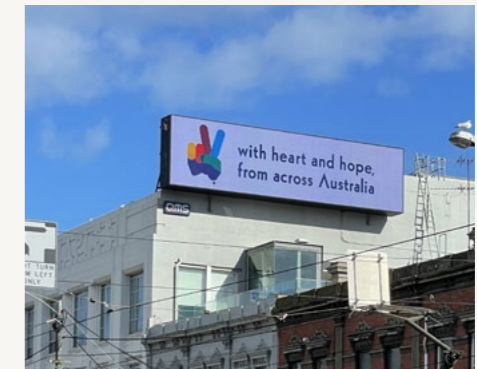
From the sale of the first Cocoon collection, a total of \$3,450 was raised towards the 2021-22 Community Chest and the continued support of the V for Victori Project.

V for Victori Project

Following the 2021 Winter Solstice exhibition, Victoria along with NSW and other states and territories of Australia were forced back into lockdowns and restrictions as COVID-19 continued to wreak havoc across the greater community.

During this period the project continued to gain momentum, sharing thousands of positive billboards, posters, paste-ups and messages across the country.

The project received further recognition as a finalist in the 2021 Victorian Premier's Design Awards at the National Gallery of Victoria, along with an exhibition as part of the Melbourne Design Week in March 2022.



You can read more about the project at: vforvictori.com

Or follow: @vforvictoriaus

*To my family
(for the one I was given,
and the one I made along the way)*

S E R I E S I I
W I N T E R S O L S T I C E 2 0 2 2

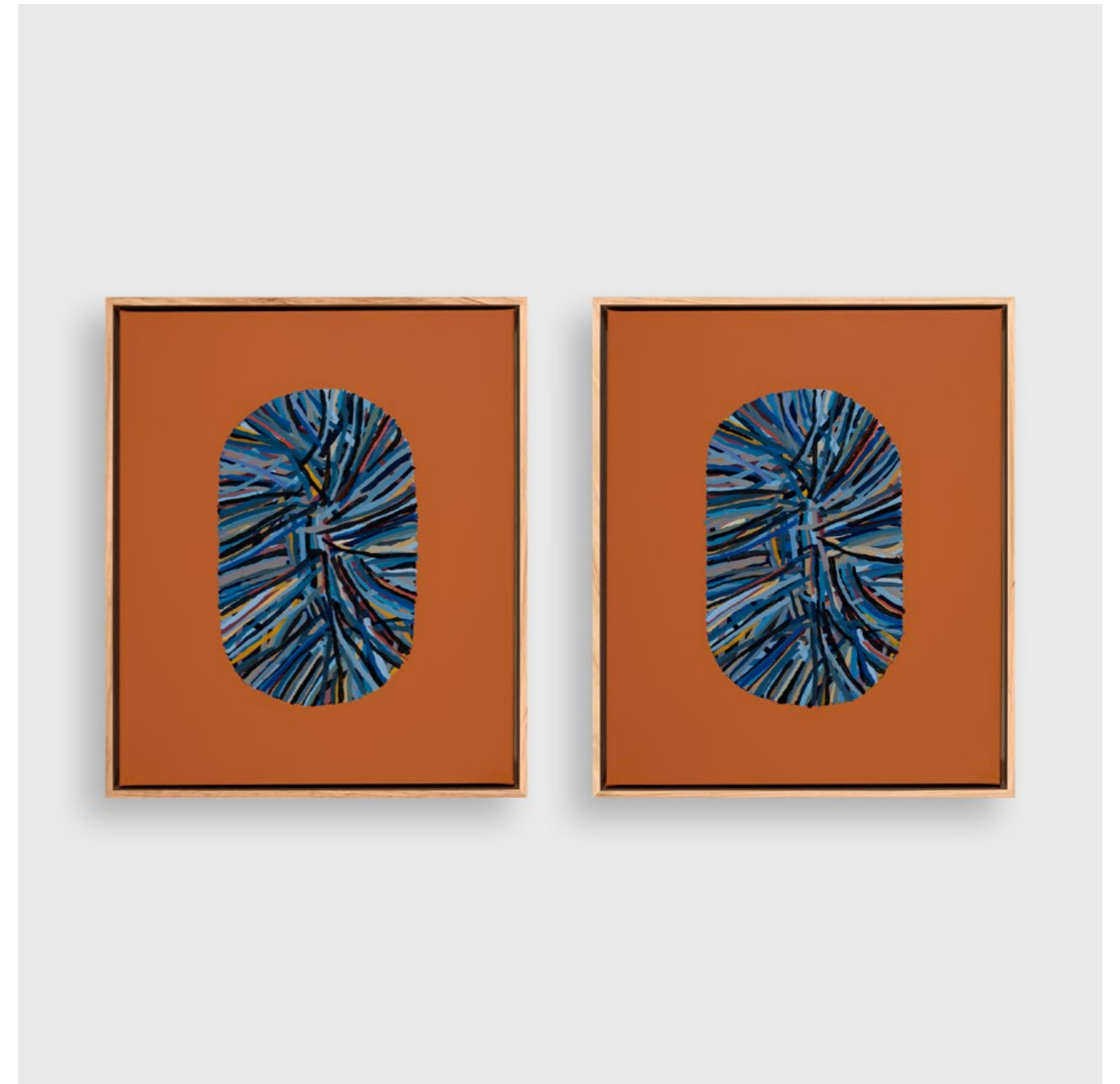
COMMUNITY CHEST

This book presents the first two series of Cocoons by Charlie Ryan of what will be twelve planned collections to be released on the Winter Solstice each year for twelve years – with no more than six pairs of Cocoons created annually.

However unlike other collections created by the artist, all but one of the artworks will be put to auction at the time of the solstice each year.

With the intention that half of the return from each artwork be enchestred and considered as an endowment of patronage towards the support and production of the artists' own creative projects within the community for the next year. Which will then be presented back within the publication of the following years' collection.

Making this not only a chance to acquire one of these rare and beautiful paintings, but also the opportunity to take part in a greater journey with the artist.



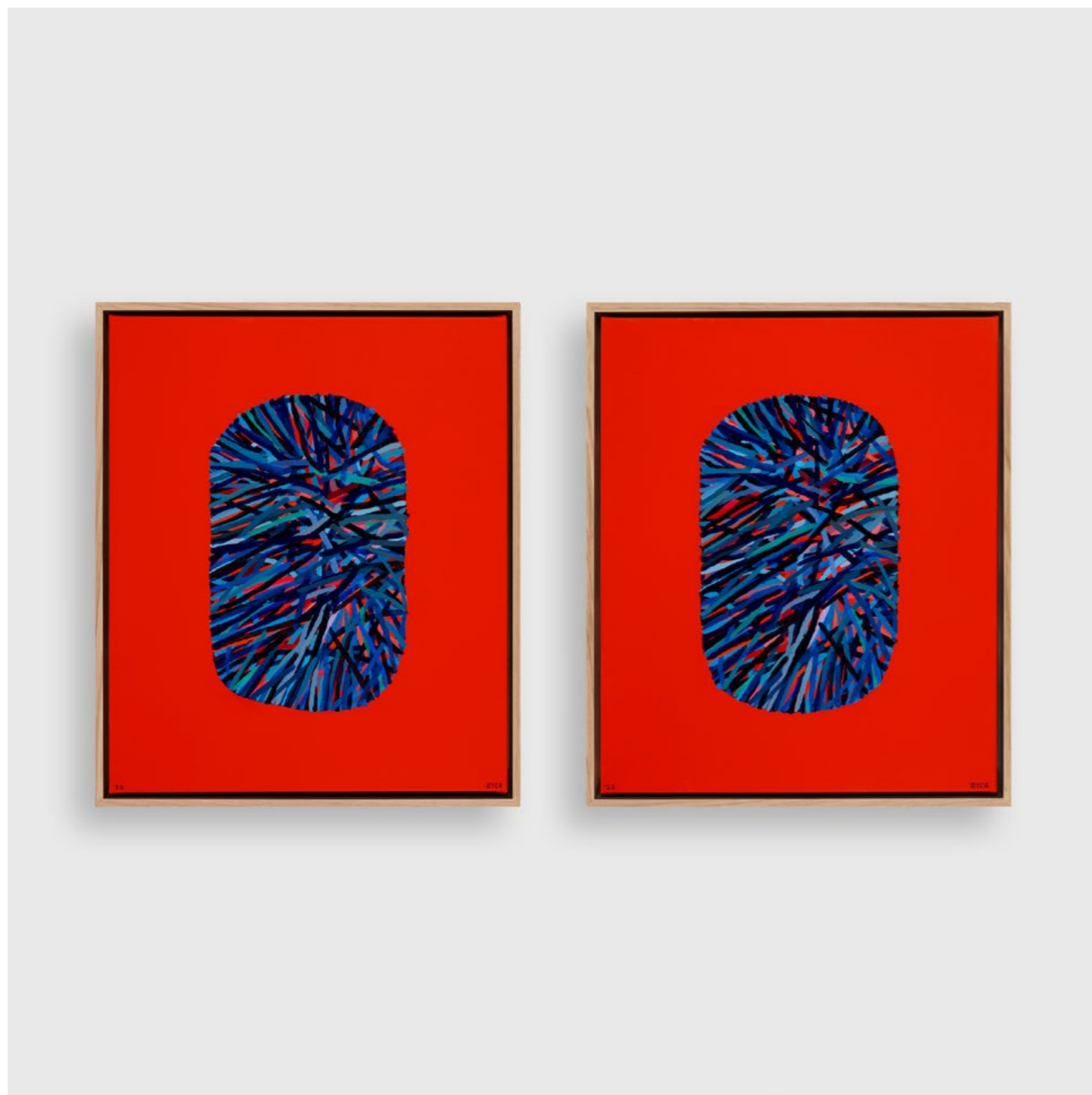
Cocoons XIII and XIV

2022

Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas

H 61cm x W 51cm

(Framed in Oak)



Cocoons XV and XVI

2022

Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas

H 61cm x W 51cm

(Framed in Oak)



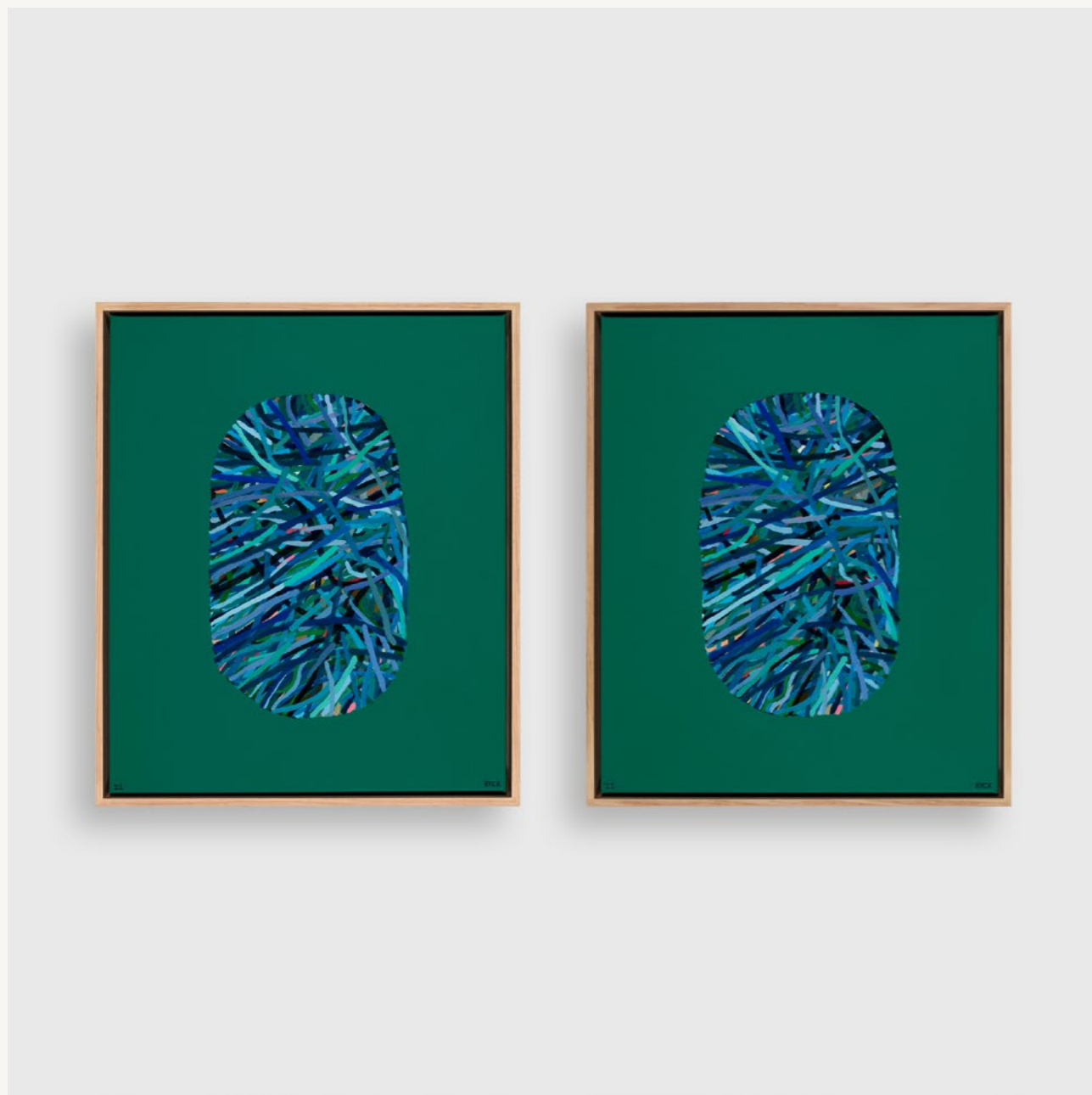
Cocoons XVII and XVIII

2022

Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas

H 61cm x W 51cm

(Framed in Oak)



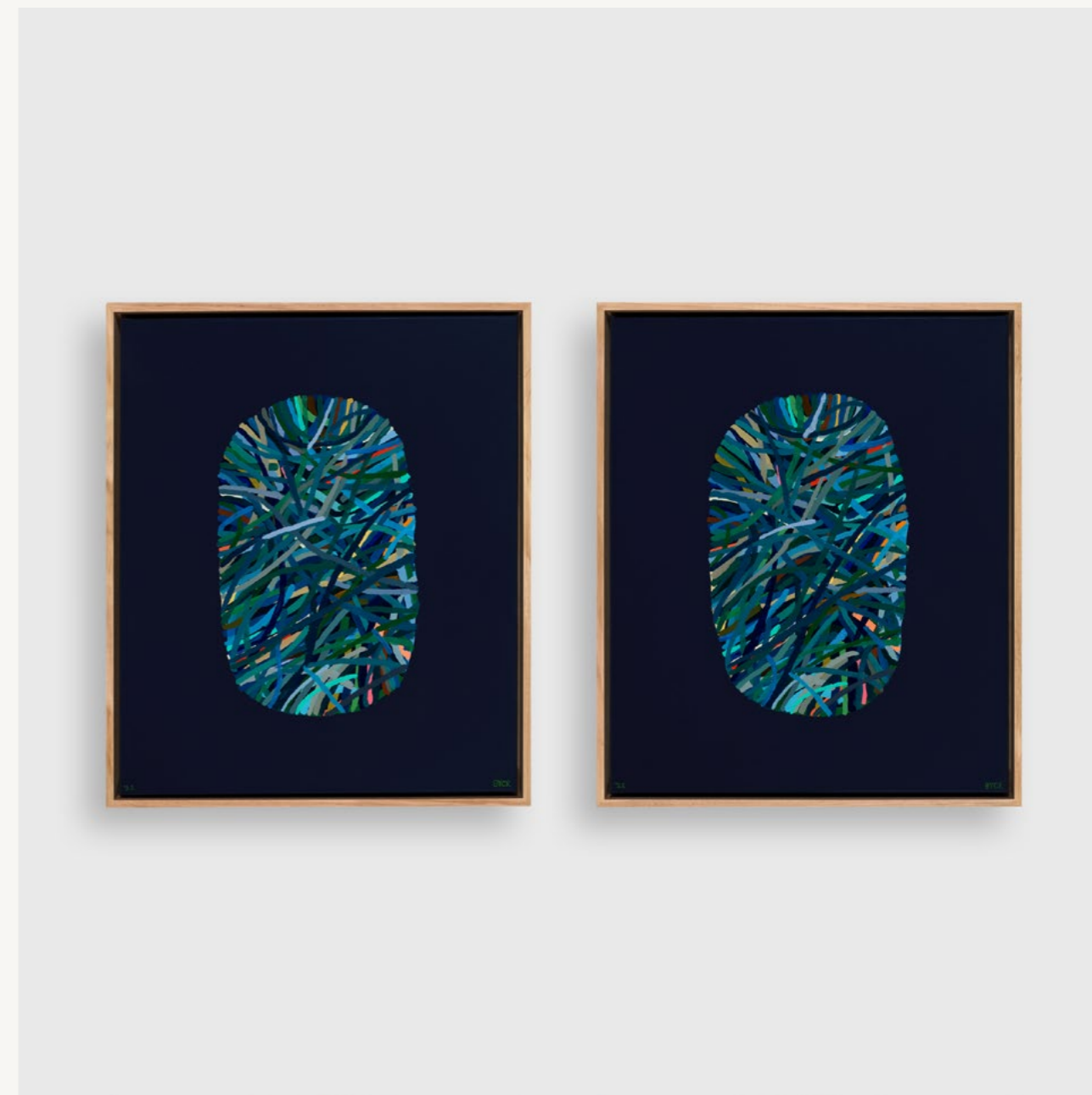
Cocoons XIX and XX

2022

Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas

H 61cm x W 51cm

(Framed in Oak)



Cocoons XXI and XXII

2022

Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas

H 61cm x W 51cm

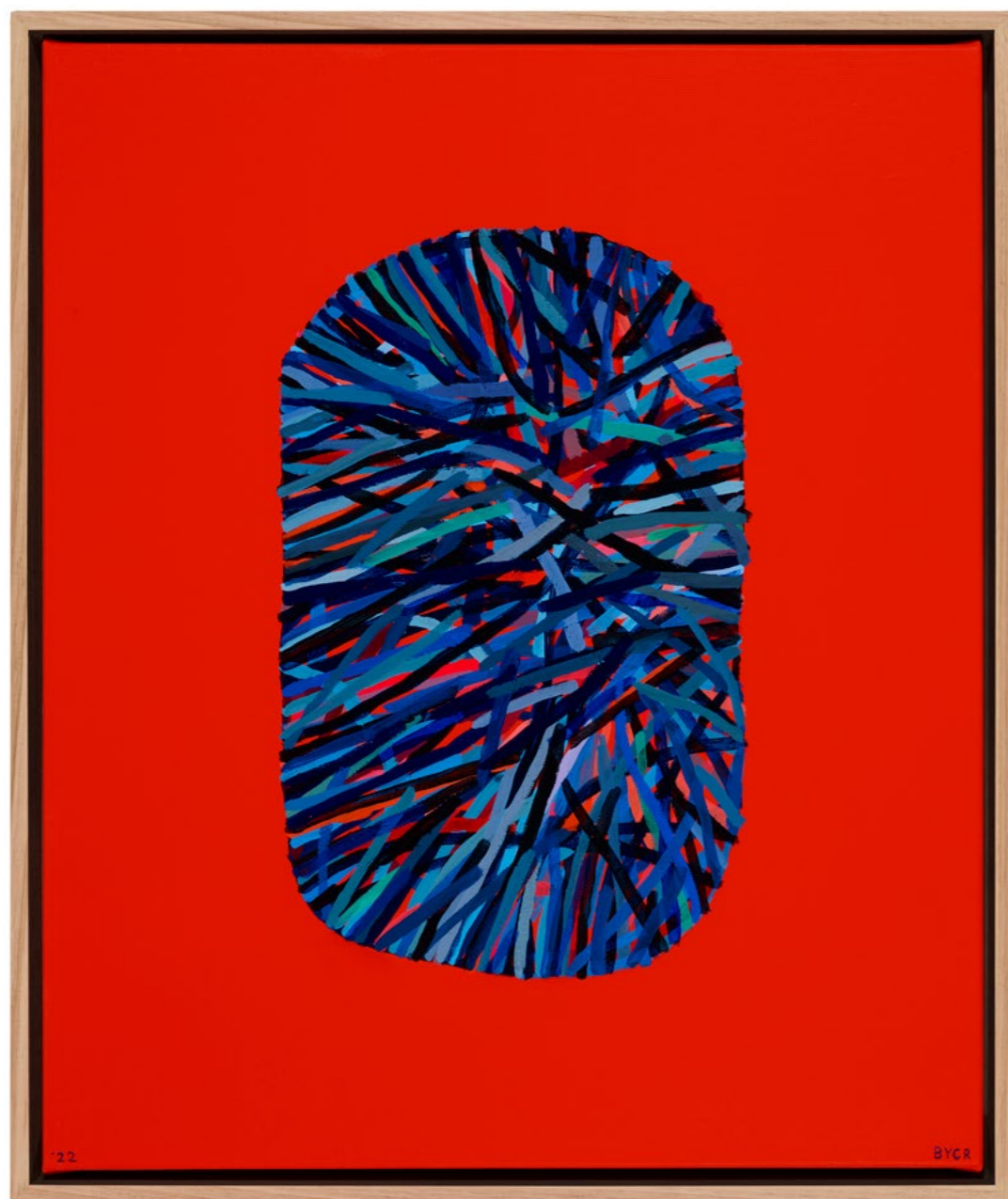
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon XIII
2022
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon XIV
2022
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon XV
2022
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon XVI
2022
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon XVII
2022
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon XVIII
2022
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon XIX
2022
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon XX
2022
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon XXI
2022
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)



Cocoon XXII
2022
Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm
(Framed in Oak)

THE VEILED PAINTING

At each of the artists' 3 previous solo exhibitions he has presented a veiled artwork wrapped in brown paper and string, and auctioned them with no minimum opening bid.

Titled the 'Veiled Painting', these mysterious artworks represent an opportunity for a member of the community to own the experience of sharing a piece of art privately with the artist. And in the case of these unique paired works, one will be wrapped for auction and the other to be kept by the artist, and to be unveiled at the exhibition.

The catch is that the successful buyer cannot view the artwork until they have successfully purchased it with their winning bid.

Cocoon XI

2021

Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm

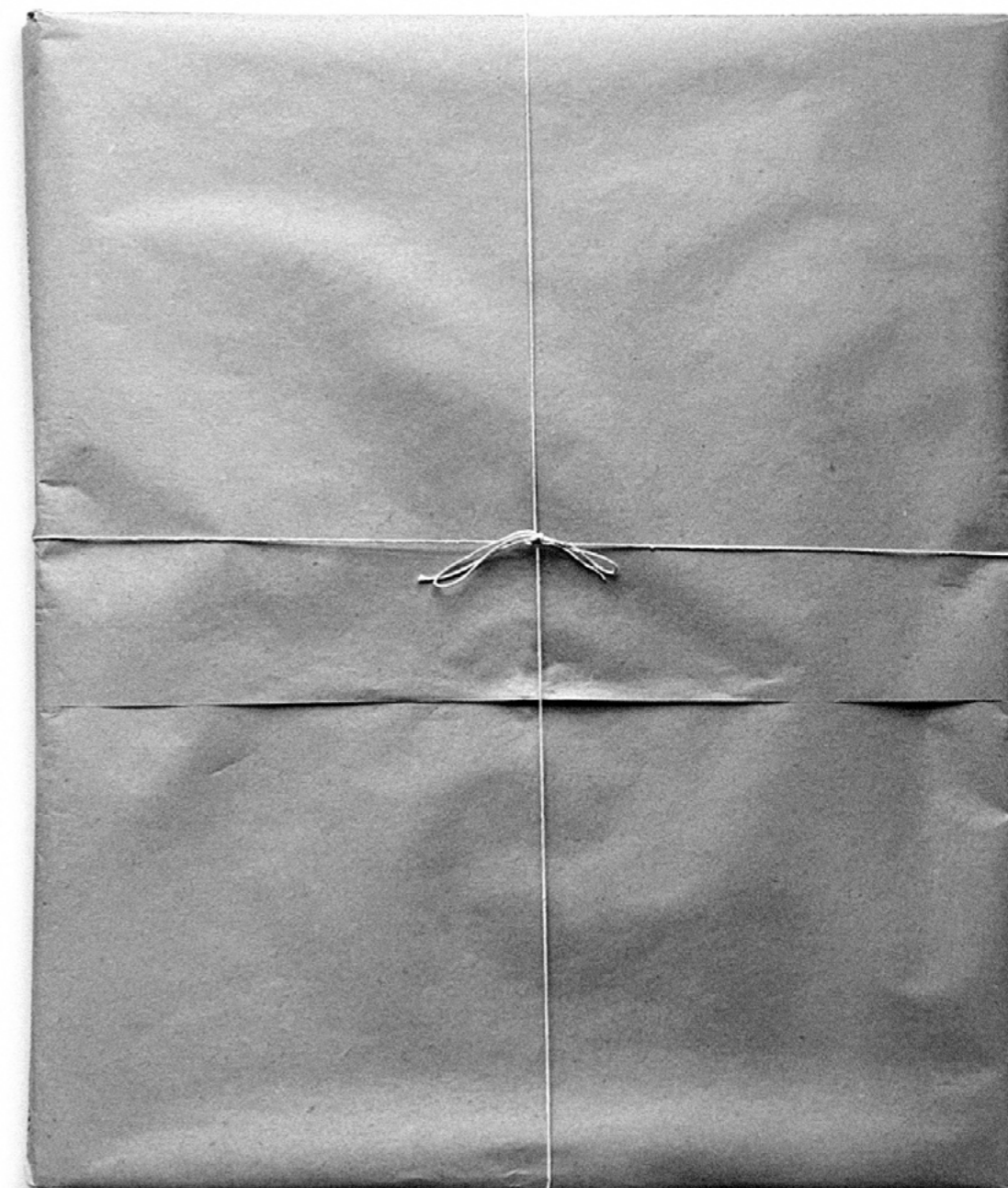
(The Veiled Painting III)

Cocoon XII

2021

Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm

(to be kept by the artist)



Cocoon XXIII

2022

Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm

(The Veiled Painting IV)

Cocoon XXIV

2022

Synthetic Polymer Paints on Canvas
H 61cm x W 51cm

(to be kept by the artist)



*A Smoking Ceremony performed with community (Winter Solstice 2021)
Nordie Cafe, Bunurong / Boon Wurrung Country, Red Hill, Australia*

