



Red window, oil on copper, 12 x 20 in, 2022, photo Alon Koppel, OSMOS

Santiago de Paoli
Inside the Red Barn

OSMOS Station
20 Railroad Avenue, Stamford, New York

July 22 to August 28, 2022
Opening July 22, 6 to 8 pm
Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 10 am to 6 pm and by appointment

For the first exhibition in his new home of Stamford, New York, Argentinian-born artist Santiago de Paoli will present recent works that bring together cultural memories from his hometown of Buenos Aires with new materials, motifs, and experiences of his rural residence in Upstate New York.

The centerpiece of the exhibition will be a multi-panel oil-on-copper painting that the artist describes as “an altarpiece for Stamford.” Comprised of nine vertical sections—each containing a tall upper and square lower panel—the polyptych borrows from the visual logic of Renaissance devotional paintings with their narratives dispersed across a central panel, wings, and predella. Here, each upper segment features a variation on the same repeating motif—a priapic shape of two round fields connected by a central ‘neck’ that ends at the bottom in two additional spherical forms. The overall composition paradoxically evokes both the suggestion of a phallic shape and the torso of a woman with her breasts exposed. The bottom panels, much like Renaissance predellas, present a continuous still-life scene of apples and plates on a suggested tabletop.

The smooth and reflective copper support, sourced by de Paoli from a local building supply store, is reminiscent of a 17th century painting the artist first in a Paris museum, and which has ever since fascinated de Paoli for both its luminosity and oddity.

OSMOS

STATION

In equal parts surrealist devotional painting, still life painting of upstate New York's most iconic fruit, and material experiment, the monumental work is one of de Paoli's most ambitious and masterful creations to date.

Several additional smaller paintings in this exhibition feature details from the artist's immediate environment, such as *Red Window*, which refers to the artist's studio with its crimson walls, carpet, doors, and windows, while *Blue Meadow* captures the view from his office. The fourth work, entitled *In the Field*, further expands the surrealist character typical of de Paoli's earlier work: this small oil-on-copper painting, presents a close look at a piece of corn, which is rendered as a luminous relief, driven into the pure copper as outline and volume, while the surrounding night scene is painted and oddly mute.

Together, these works represent a powerful evolution of and departure from de Paoli's earlier works and can be understood as a celebration of the artist's new surroundings in the Western Catskills, an area that for the Hudson River School painters and poets such as William Cullen Bryant was understood to be a "cathedral of nature" for which de Paoli created a spectacular altarpiece. OSMOS presents this in collaboration with Upstate Art Weekend.

Santiago de Paoli born in 1978 in Buenos Aires, lives and works in Stamford, New York. He earned a BFA from Atlanta College of Art after studying biology at the University of Buenos Aires. He has attended Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture and *Programa de Artistas Di Tella* in Argentina. Recent exhibitions include Galerie Jocelyn Wolff, Paris (2021), X Museum, Beijing (2021), Mendes Wood, São Paulo (2019-20), Museo La Cárcova, Buenos Aires (2019), and LULU, Mexico City (2017) among others.

OSMOS Station is a community-oriented artist studio and residency in the Western Catskills of New York with a commitment to bringing new artists to Stamford and Delaware County, as well as offering workshops to foster skills for locals in the art industry.

OSMOS Station 20 Railroad Avenue, Stamford, NY 12167
osmos.address@gmail.com / 917 362 5415
IG @osmos.online / www.osmos.online