



UPCOMING SHOW PREVIEW / DENVER, CO  
May 1-23, 2015

Gallery 1261  
1261 Delaware Street | Denver, CO 80204  
(303) 571-1261 | www.gallery1261.com

DAVID SHEVLINO

## Constant exploration



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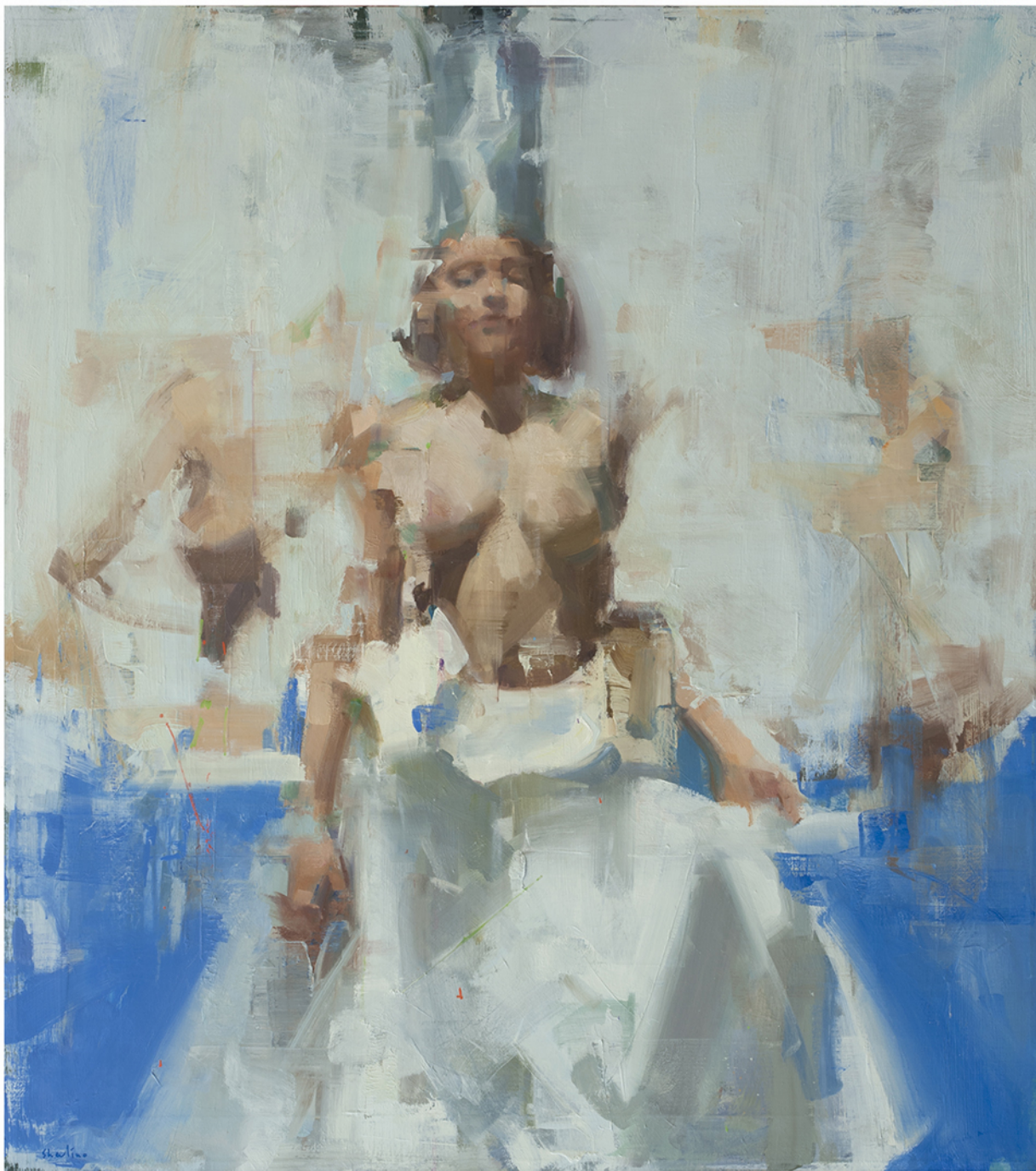
In the decades David Shevlino has been a professional artist, he has only continued to evolve and push the boundaries of his art. From an early interest in the Old Masters to a strong classical training, his work today explores a space between realism and abstraction.

"I think something I'm constantly striving for, or pushing myself toward, in my work overall—ever since I've been a practicing artist, or my more mature years—is to always be pushing myself and exploring new ideas. I am not comfortable being static," Shevlino says. "I think a lot of artists are trying to push themselves and discover new ways of painting. It's part of the evolution of being an artist. That's been my guiding principle for the past 15 to 20 years, pushing myself to new ideas and expanding my own horizons. I've experimented with different approaches. I think I have an open mind about what painting can be, while at the same time I come from a very traditional background, so I have a strong foundation in drawing and painting and the traditional craft of how it's done. But, I like to try new things and keep myself interested."

The common thread of Shevlino's artwork is how he approaches a painting and handles the paint. In the more recent work, viewers will notice there has been a natural evolution toward visual fragmentation in which forms are broken up or abstracted. Shevlino first experimented with this idea in the painting *Green Landscape*, and it's since developed into his nude figurative paintings.

"*Green Landscape* actually came before some of the nude figures I've been painting," Shevlino says. "That was an experiment of where I am now, fragmenting the picture surface using

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- 1 *Bending*, oil on panel, 18 x 18"
- 2 *Over the Head*, oil on panel, 12 x 12"
- 3 *Green Dress*, oil on canvas panel, 12 x 10"
- 4 *White Dress*, oil on canvas, 39 x 35"



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the subject or abstracting it in different ways. It just so happened in a landscape, and then I decided to try that same thing, or something similar, in nude figures. It's not just about the subject—it's about the way I handle the paint."

For his figurative work, Shevlino will set up sessions with models and then take photographs of the subject. He searches through the images to find the right moment to turn into a painting. "I am more interested in movement and less in the static pose," the artist explains.

"That's one of the reasons I enjoy using a camera. I don't have the model strike a pose, but I have them move around, and I take several hundred photographs. I'm able to extract a photo that has them more in between a pose—a fleeting moment."

Shevlino's recent figurative works show women interacting with clothing—putting on dresses, taking them off, anything that has life and vitality. Among them are *Bending*, which shows a model from behind, stepping into—or out of—a green dress; *White Dress*, where the model has

the dress on halfway; *Over the Head*, depicting the model pulling a dress off or on from above; and *Green Dress*, where the subject is simply holding the garment.

Gallery 1261 in Denver will host a solo exhibition of Shevlino's latest works from May 1 to 23. There will be a reception on opening night from 6 to 9 p.m. with the artist in attendance. Shevlino also will teach a four-day workshop at the gallery beginning April 30. The workshop will focus on the "wet into wet" technique, working from a live model. ●