

Timothy Gianelli

Selected Portfolio Works

2026



Artist Statement

Timothy Gianelli is a psychological landscape painter working within and against the lineage of American landscape painting. Rather than depicting specific locations, Gianelli uses landscape to give physical form to uncertainty, fear, memory, and hesitation.

For Gianelli, a psychological landscape is one that feels like an emotional or mental state rather than a literal place. He is not painting scenery so much as creating places that hold tension, memory, fear, uncertainty, and warning. The landscape becomes a psychological threshold: beautiful, but charged with something that cannot be fully named.

Tree walls, waterlines, moons, paths, banks, and lanterns operate as structures of access and prohibition. They direct the viewer toward spaces that appear open while quietly denying passage. The landscape is not a passive backdrop but an active presence: beautiful, withholding, and charged with consequence. Beauty functions as a warning rather than a consolation.

The work originates in a childhood warning Gianelli received about the woods: do not go in there, because people do not always come back. Rather than serving as autobiography, this warning becomes the conceptual foundation of the paintings, shaping landscape into a place where beauty and threat remain inseparable.

Working within and against an American landscape lineage that includes Marsden Hartley, Milton Avery, Charles Burchfield, and Gertrude Abercrombie, Gianelli continues the tradition of using landscape to express interior and cultural conditions. At the same time, he pushes the conversation forward by asking why American landscape painting remains important and what it can communicate now. His paintings move landscape away from observation, pastoral escape, and transcendence, treating it instead as an antagonistic psychological field structured by obstruction, distance, pressure, and the possibility of danger.

Built through compression, luminosity, and spatial denial, the paintings hold the viewer at the threshold of entry, where the eye advances and the body hesitates.



Event at Shore

Oil on canvas, 36 × 48 in



The Shore That Does Not Welcome You

Oil on canvas, 30 × 40 in



The Way Through Red Light

Oil on canvas, 30 × 40 in



Pressure Shoreline

Oil on canvas, 24 × 36 in



The Wide Gap

Oil on canvas, 24 × 36 in



The Door in the Warmth

Oil on canvas, 36 × 36 in



The Seam

Oil on canvas, 48 × 60 in



Opening on the Coast

Oil on canvas, 36 × 48 in



At the Cippus

Oil on canvas, 36 × 38 in



The Kitchen Door to Somewhere Else

Oil on canvas, 48 × 60 in



Moonlight on the White Path

Oil on canvas, 48 × 60 in



Follow the Line

Oil on canvas, 30 × 40 in



The Place That Waited

Oil on canvas, 24 × 30 in



Field with Event

Oil on canvas, 36 × 48 in



The Long River at Night

Oil on canvas, 48 × 72 in



Almost There

Oil on canvas, 18 × 24 in

Artist Bio / CV

Timothy Gianelli was born in Boston and lives and works in Cambridge, Massachusetts. His paintings center on imagined landscapes, forbidden places, thresholds, and the emotional charge of entering the unknown. Gianelli began exhibiting work at an early age, including at the deCordova Museum in Massachusetts when he was ten, and later returned to painting with renewed focus as an adult. His work has been shown at Pellas Gallery.

Timothy Gianelli

Born in Boston, Massachusetts

Lives and works in Cambridge, Massachusetts

Education

BA, Coastal Carolina University

Solo and Group Exhibitions

2025 Pellas Gallery

2024 Pellas Gallery

2023 Pellas Gallery

2021 Pellas Gallery

Press

2026 Boston Magazine, "A Warning from His Mother" (forthcoming)

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