

Timmy Valentine

Selected Works 2025 – 2026

## Short Bio

Timmy Valentine (b. 1975) is an American painter working in Illinois. His large-scale paintings use deliberate figuration and heightened color to construct psychological spaces where familiarity and unease coexist. Drawing serves as the structural foundation of his practice, with recurring figures and symbols developing across bodies of work rather than individual images. Valentine's work examines attention, perception, and the instability of assumed meanings, allowing narrative possibilities to remain open while maintaining a strong physical presence. He works primarily in acrylic on panel and canvas.

## Extended Bio

Timmy Valentine is a self-taught American painter whose practice centers on the sustained development of symbolic figuration across large-scale paintings and written narrative. Working primarily in acrylic on panel and canvas, he constructs environments in which familiar imagery appears slightly displaced, allowing recognition and uncertainty to operate simultaneously. His compositions prioritize direct visual impact while resisting fixed interpretation, encouraging prolonged viewing rather than immediate resolution.

Drawing forms the structural basis of the work. Valentine repeatedly returns to particular figures and objects through extensive drawing cycles, allowing them to evolve gradually before entering painting. As a result, individual works function less as isolated statements and more as moments within an expanding internal language. Recurring characters, animals, and staged situations operate as active propositions rather than illustrations, maintaining narrative potential without resolving into a single story.

In recent bodies of work, Valentine has focused on attention as both a perceptual and social condition. Figures appear presented, observed, or interrupted, often within simplified architectural or theatrical spaces that heighten their psychological presence. Color is used not descriptively but structurally, shaping emotional tone and directing awareness across the surface.

Parallel to the paintings, Valentine writes long-form fiction set within similarly constructed realities. Rather than adapting images into stories, the writing and paintings develop independently while sharing a conceptual ground, extending the same world across mediums.

Working outside a traditional academic framework, Valentine has developed a studio practice grounded in continuity and repetition. His work emphasizes sustained engagement over singular statements, allowing meaning to accumulate across time and across bodies of work.

Valentine lives and works in Illinois.

## Artist Statement

My paintings begin with drawing. I return repeatedly to figures, animals, and staged situations until they accumulate a presence independent of any single image. When they enter painting, they are no longer illustrations but active elements within a constructed environment.

I am interested in how recognition forms and destabilizes. The images often appear familiar at first encounter, but small displacements prevent them from resolving into fixed meaning. Rather than delivering a narrative, the work holds multiple possibilities in suspension, allowing viewers to remain inside the experience of looking.

Color functions structurally rather than descriptively. It directs attention, sets emotional pressure, and shapes how the eye moves across the surface. The scale of the paintings reinforces a physical relationship between viewer and image, slowing perception and encouraging extended engagement.

The written fiction develops alongside the paintings. The two practices are not adaptations of one another but parallel constructions that share a common world. Each medium allows ideas to unfold differently, expanding the same internal logic across visual and narrative space.

The work is ultimately concerned with attention, how it is directed, interrupted, and sustained, and with the moment when an image shifts from being understood to being experienced.

## Solo Exhibitions

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## Group Exhibitions

Art Link Fort Wayne, Indiana 2026

## Up Coming

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## Collections

Private Collections, United States

# CONTACT

Studio inquiries, exhibitions, acquisitions, and press

Timmy Valentine  
Illinois, United States

Representation: Independent Studio

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Works are available through direct inquiry.  
A full portfolio and documentation packet are available upon request.



Yellow Piano

2026

Acrylic on cotton canvas

72 x 72 inches



Shatterproof

2026

Acrylic on cotton canvas

36 x 36 inches



Now I Lay Me Down

2026

Acrylic on cotton canvas

36 x 36 inches



The Day After

2025

Acrylic on cotton canvas

30 x 40 inches



Hemlock Tea Party

2025

Acrylic on cotton canvas

30 x 40 inches



Solemn Promise

2025

Acrylic on cotton canvas

30 x 40 inches



Diabolique

2026

Acrylic on cotton canvas

36 x 36 inches



I Can't Let You See Me Like This

2025

Acrylic on cotton canvas

30 x 40 inches



Hereditary Reservations

2025

Acrylic on cotton canvas

30 x 40 inches



Sing Deeply

2026

Acrylic on cotton canvas

30 x 40 inches



The Ritual

2025

Acrylic on cotton canvas

30 x 40 inches