

I was(not)

I had an eye operation at the age of three. I remember trying to remove the uncomfortable bandages, momentarily seeing a strip of bright light before the dressing was immediately put back in place.

This painting series is about colour and vision *but at the same time*, it is about the moment when your eyes fail you.

One early morning when I was waking up,
I was (not) looking at one of my old paintings
which hangs in my bedroom.
Unfocused,
in a dim light
and without my spectacles,
I could not recognise the painting that I was looking at.
A vast open space receding in the middle of the picture plane.
The (not) seeing stopped immediately
when I put on my glasses.
(not) seeing was a moment that I learned to cherish.

Coloured stripes describe a landscape seen through a collapsing structure. The compositions all adhere to this trinity. Moments of collapse are captured, although it is unclear whether the portal or the landscape is in peril. The Klee inspired stripes are adjacent and related hues which create the illusion of space, of visibility.

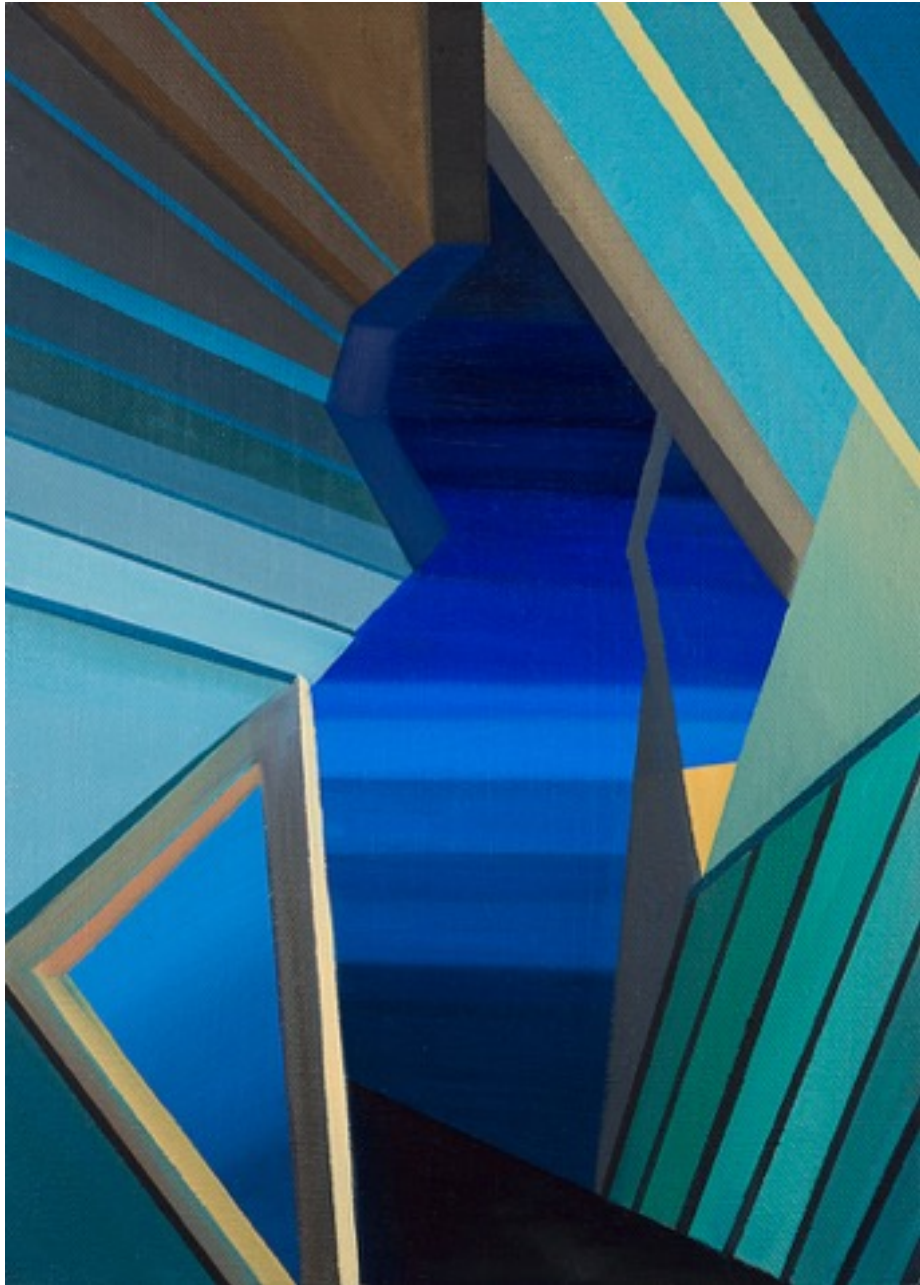
The landscapes are personal abstractions of memory and life-long experiences of looking and not seeing. Colour fields act as bandages, concealing that which is best not seen. They form representations of selective memory.

It was a moment of (not) seeing that gave birth to the new *I was(not)* painting series.

Guy Shoham 2018



Purple shutter 2018 oil on canvas 50 x 40 cm



Further west from here 2018 oil on canvas 35 x 25 cm



Collapsing 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 25 cm



Platform 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 25 cm



Yellow stretch 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 25 cm



Red roof 2018 oil on canvas 40 x 30 cm



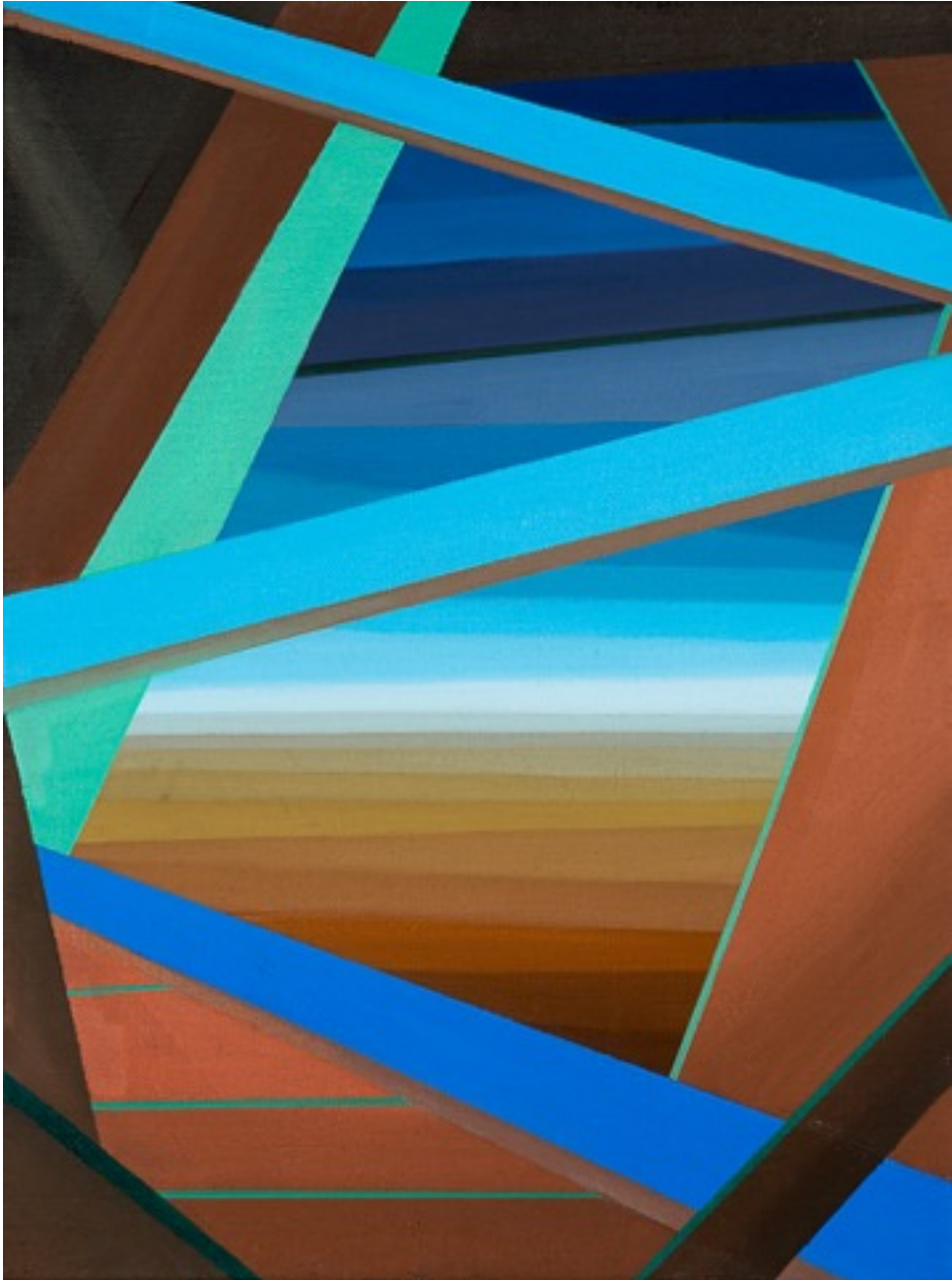
Balagan 2018 oil on canvas 40 x 30 cm



House 2018 oil on canvas 35 x 25 cm



Obstruction 2018 oil on canvas 45 x 35 cm



A to Z 2018 oil on canvas 40 x 30 cm



The Fire Place 2018 oil on canvas 40 x 30 cm



Sunset 2018 oil on canvas 40 x 30 cm



Square View 2018 oil on canvas 25 x 25 cm



Bars 2018 oil on canvas 45 x 35 cm



The Pipe 2018 oil on canvas 40 x 30 cm



Green curtain 2018 oil on canvas 50 x 40 cm



Blue Sky 2018 oil on canvas 35 x 25 cm



Heart 2018 oil on canvas 50 x 40 cm



Dreidel 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 25 cm



Frames 2018 oil on canvas 35 x 25 cm