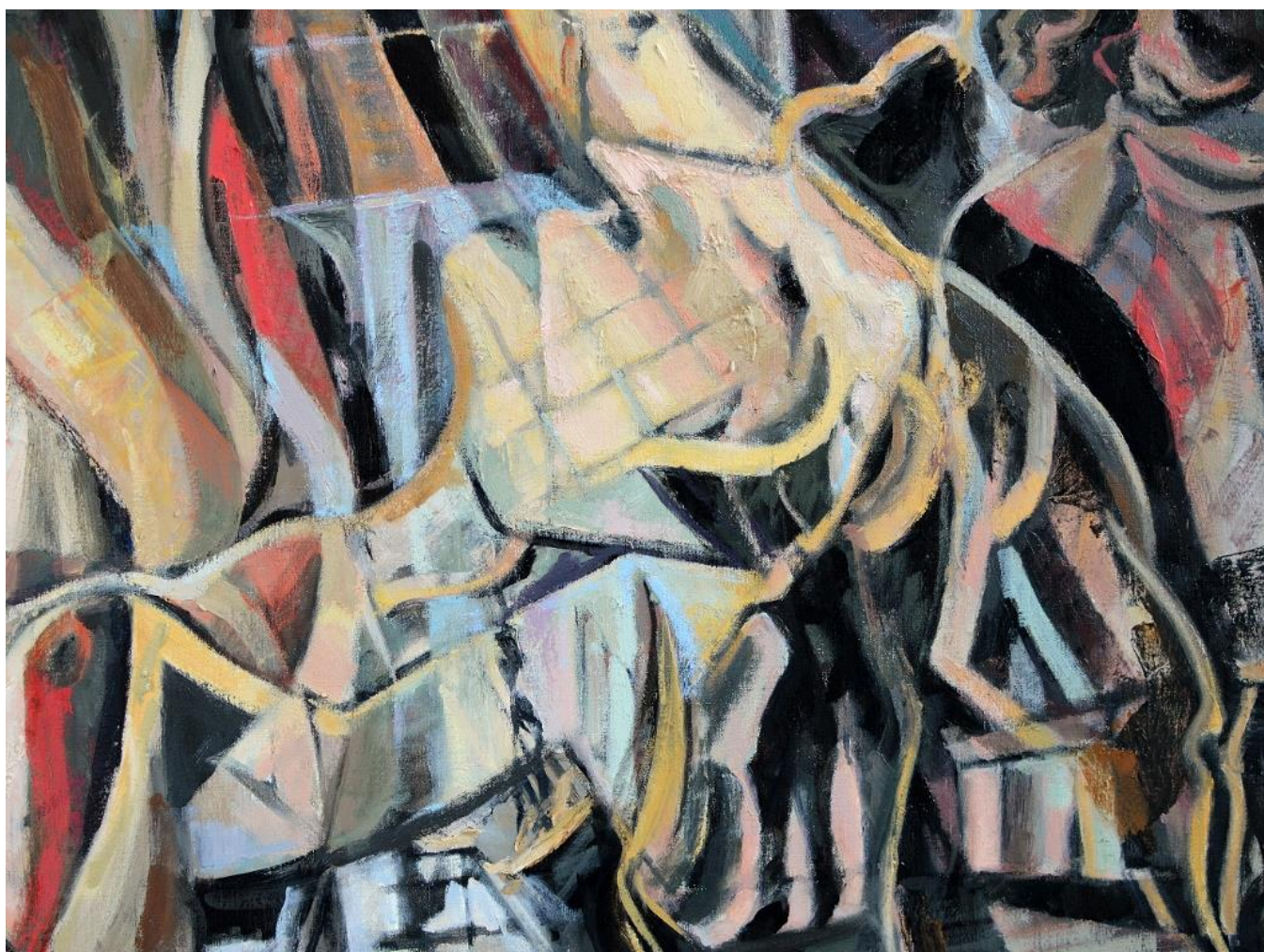


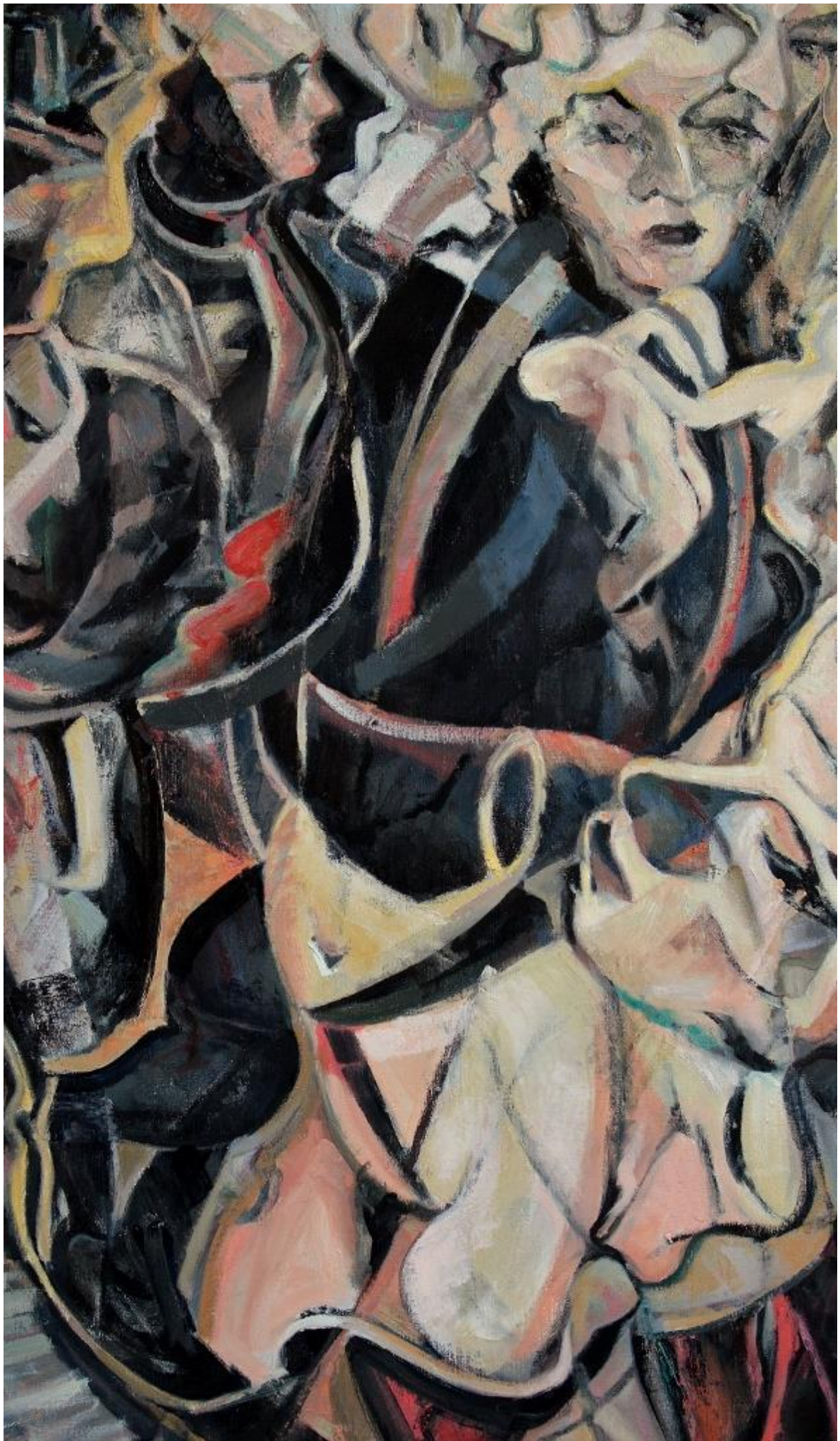
## *The King is Dead, Long Live the King*

Originally conceived as a grisaille earlier in the year, Head decided to repaint this work in August and September 2018. The palette was still restricted to a handful of pale colours set against the dark lines and masses which refer back to Head's approach to drawing. Throughout the painting process, Head worked in isolation from any models or supporting material such as drawings and photographs. The result is an attempt to establish an autonomous space and collection of motifs. What follows in this essay is a series of photographs taken by the artist of the painting on its completion, affirming Head's belief that the purpose of painting is not to illustrate a narrative but to generate a multitude of meanings unknown by the artist at the outset.

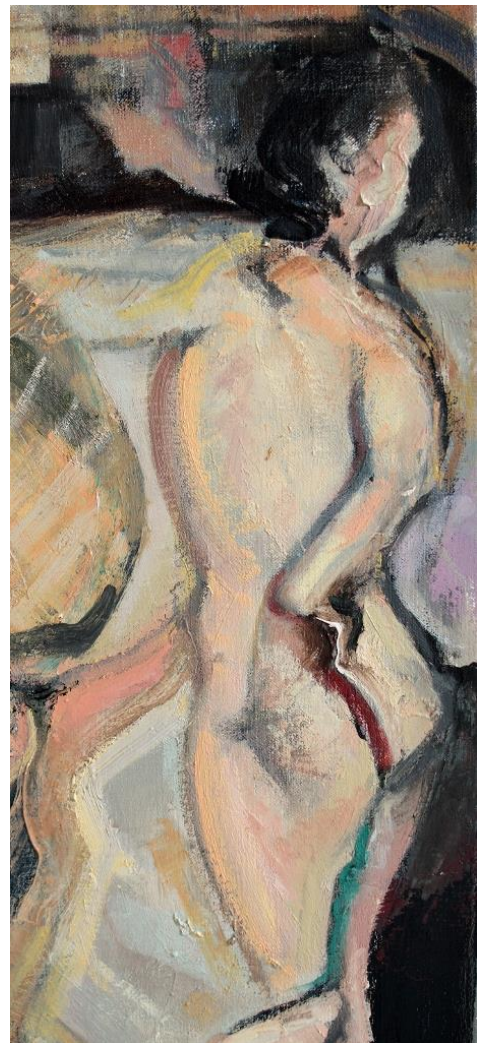
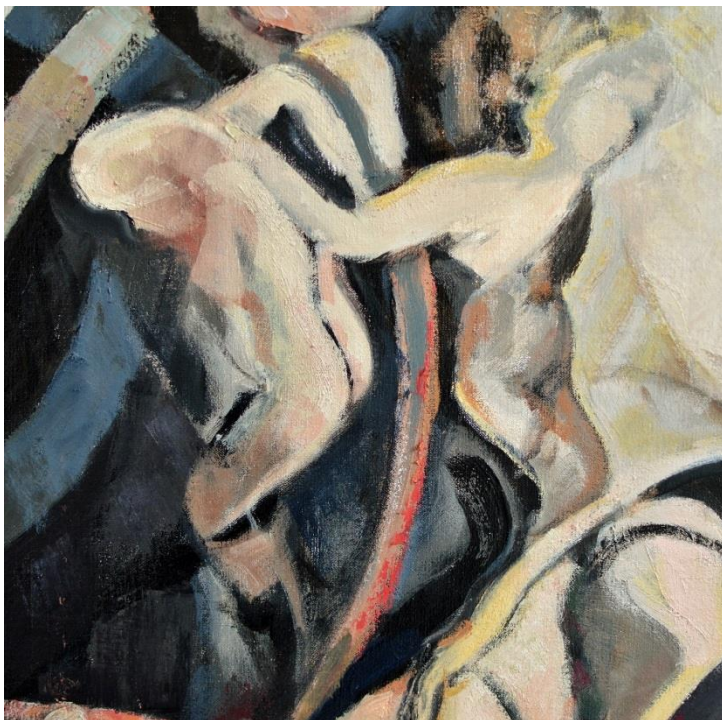
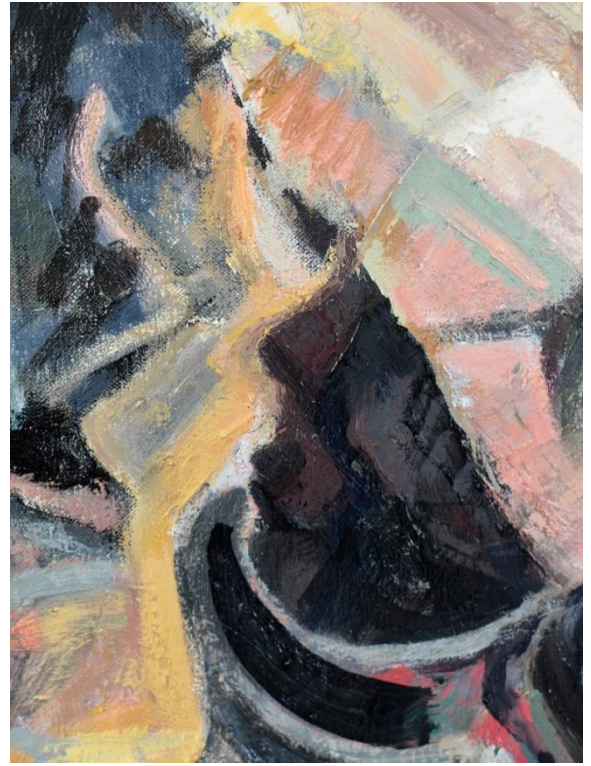
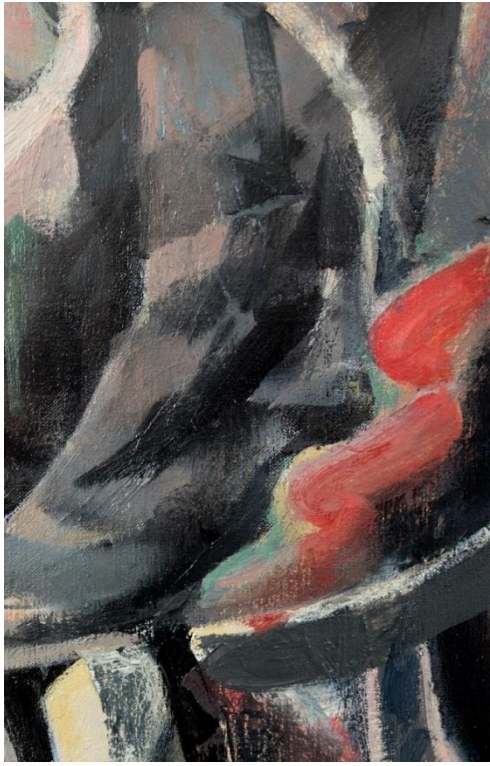
Up close, Head's activity as a painter becomes explicit. Paint is scraped, layered and becomes encrusted. This manipulation gives birth to all kinds of vivid subjects. Real, yet established without recourse to the conventions of realist painting, this work is not just unfathomable in its gallimaufry of meanings but mysterious in the very mechanics through which these come about.



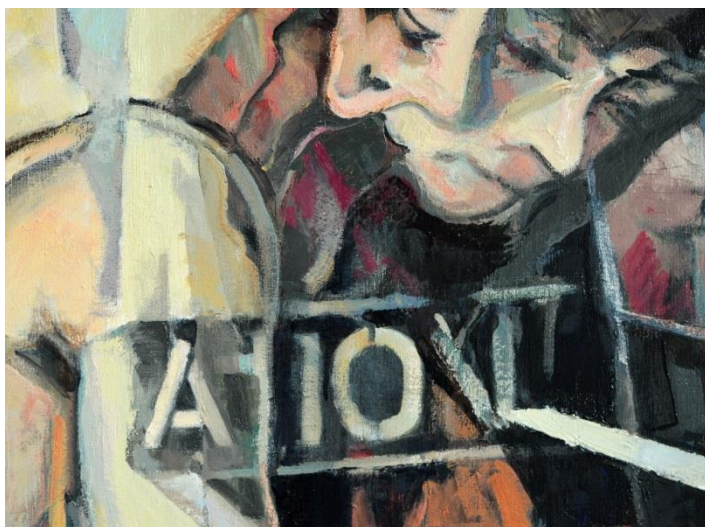




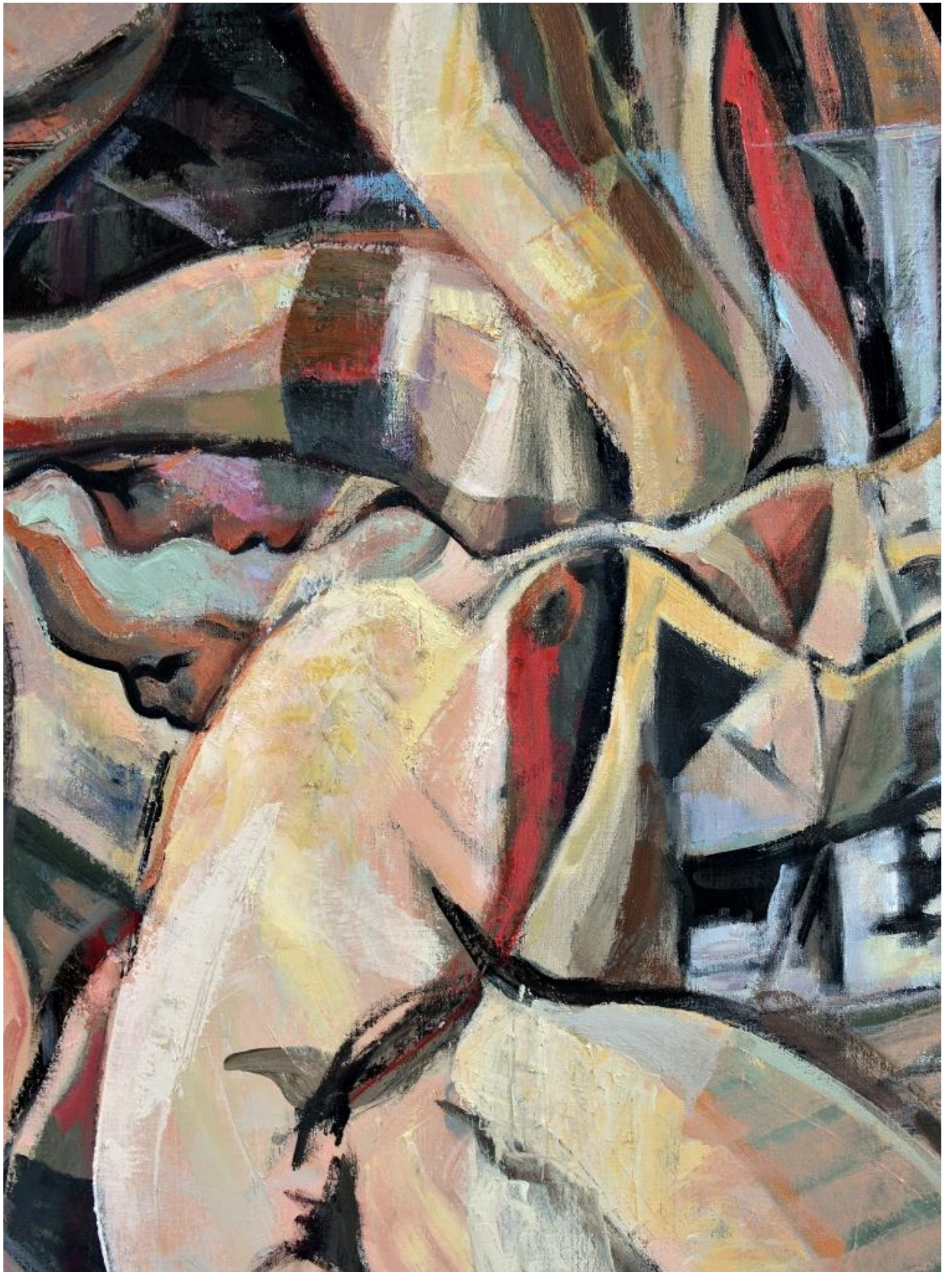




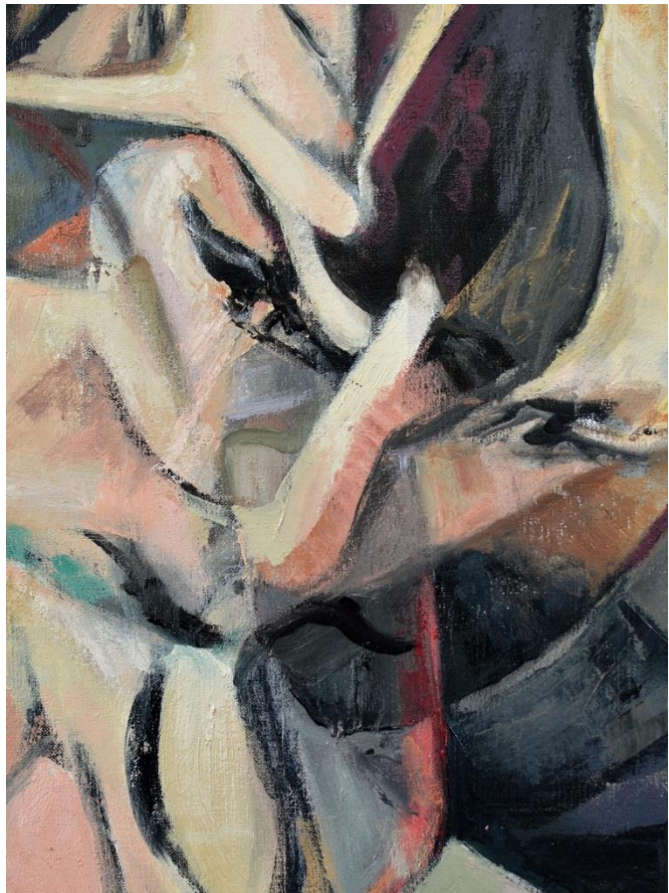
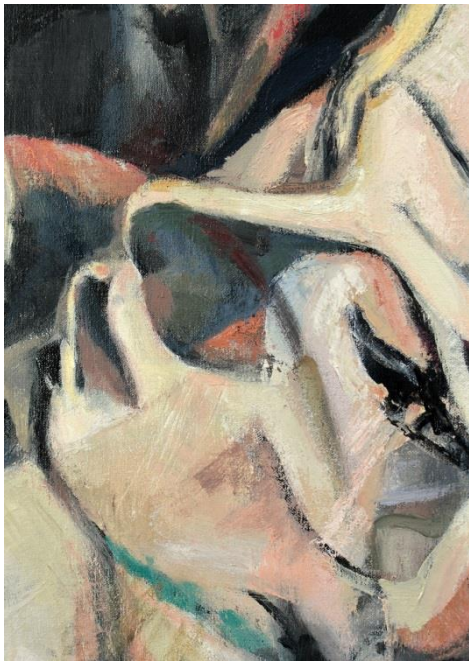




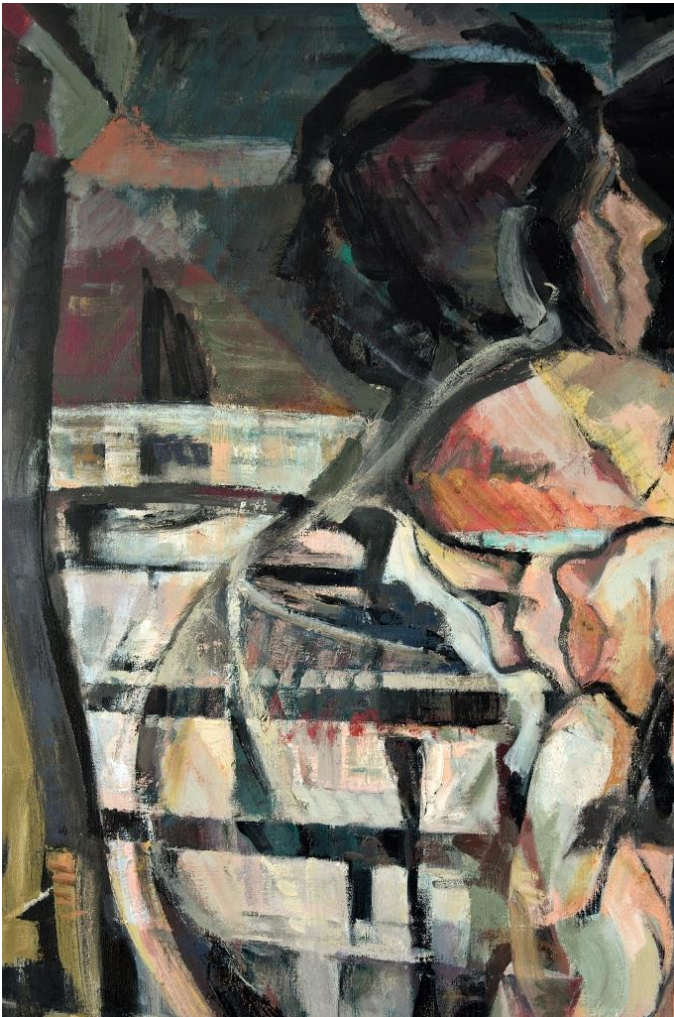
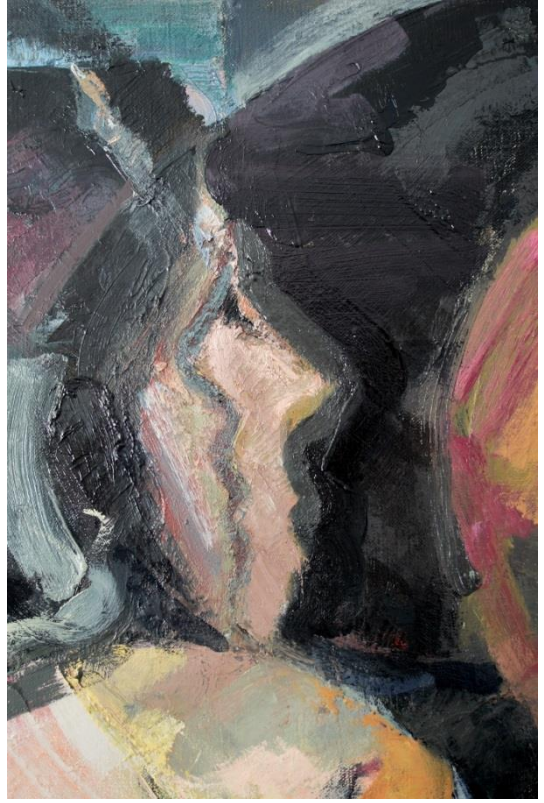
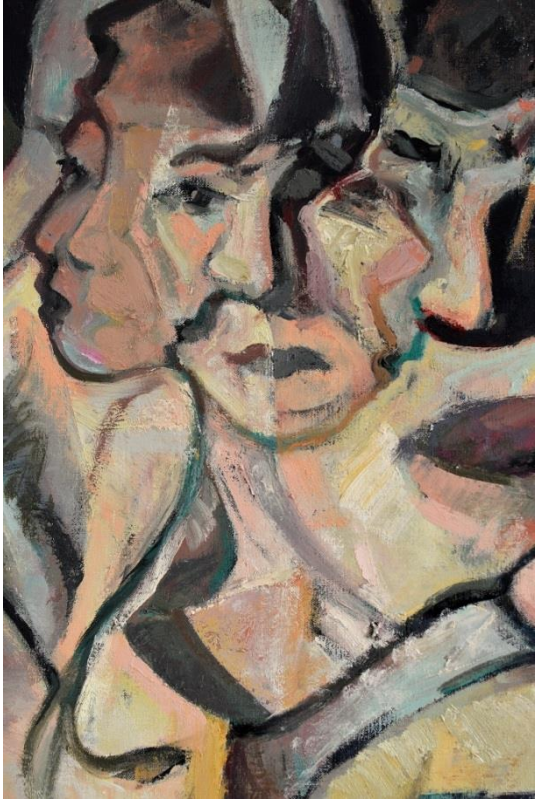




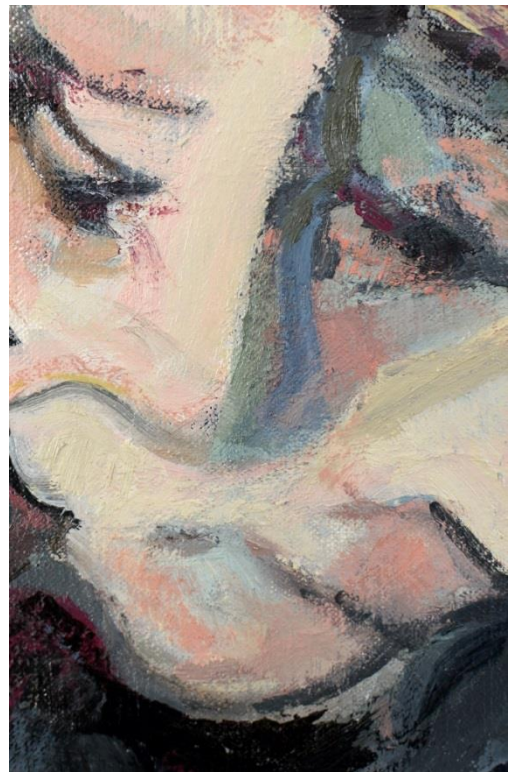
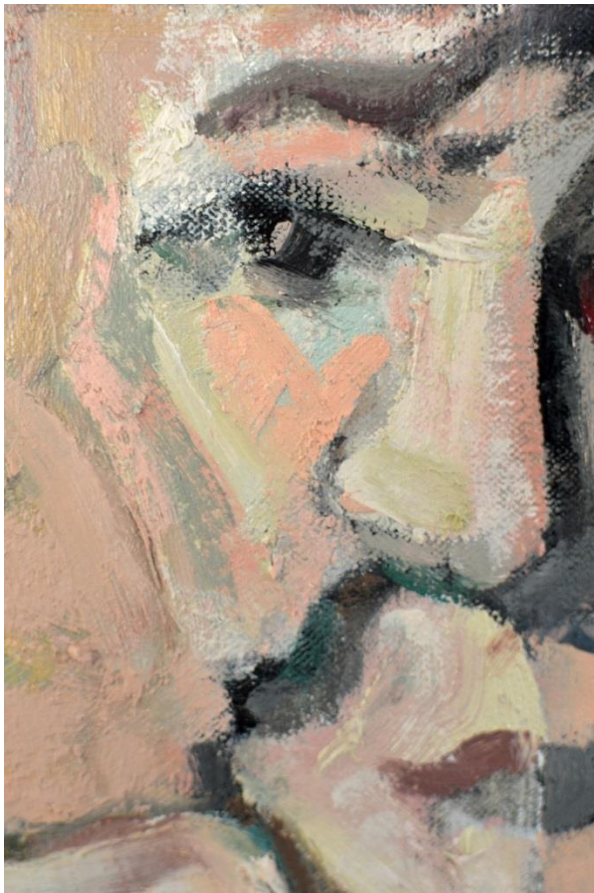




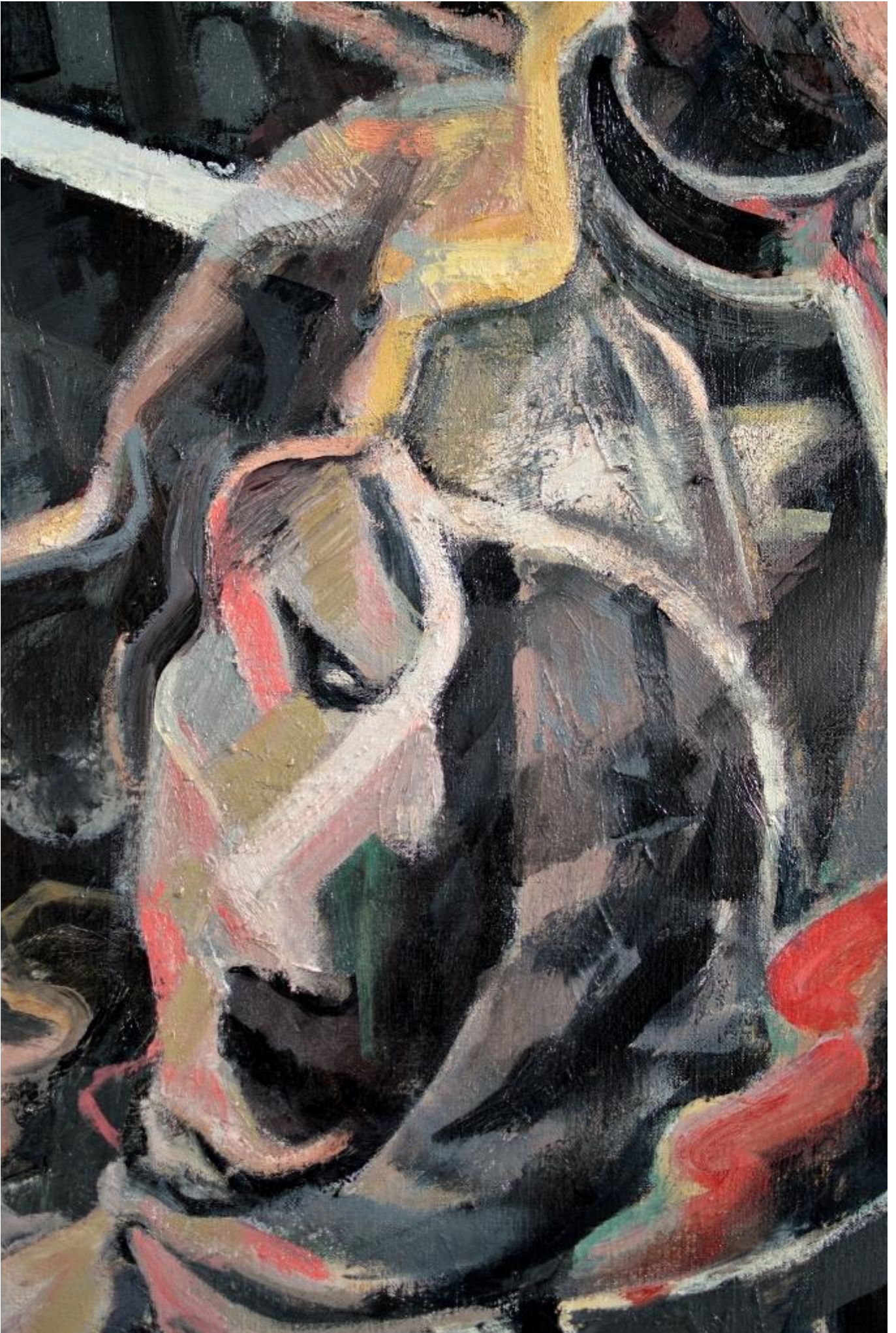




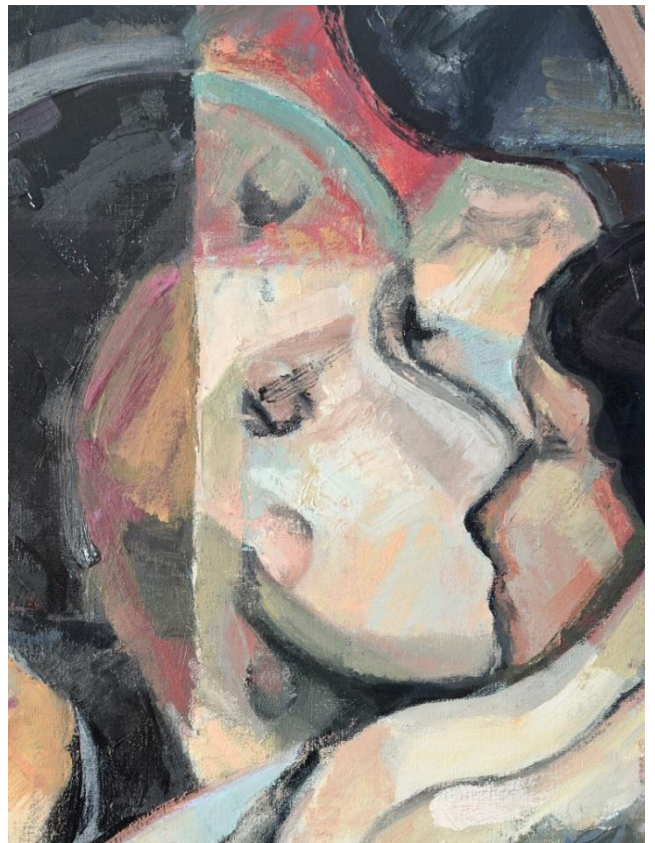
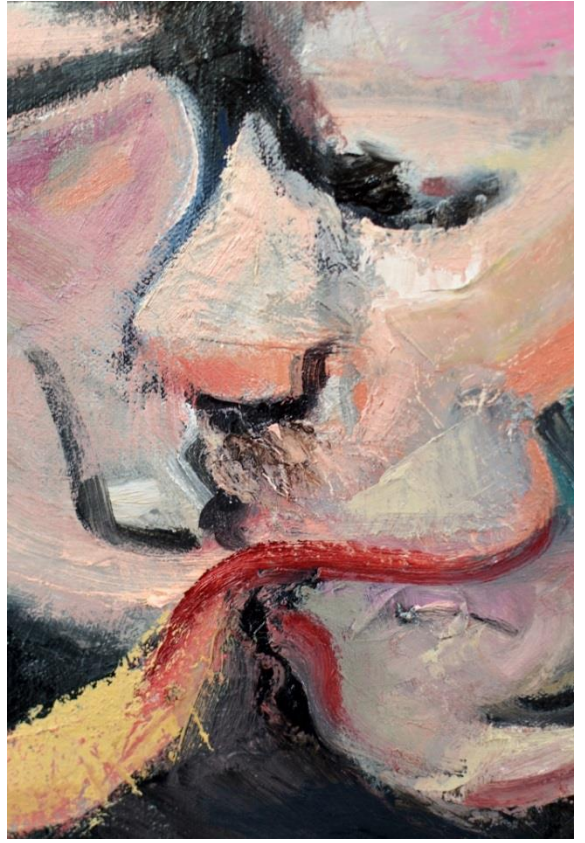




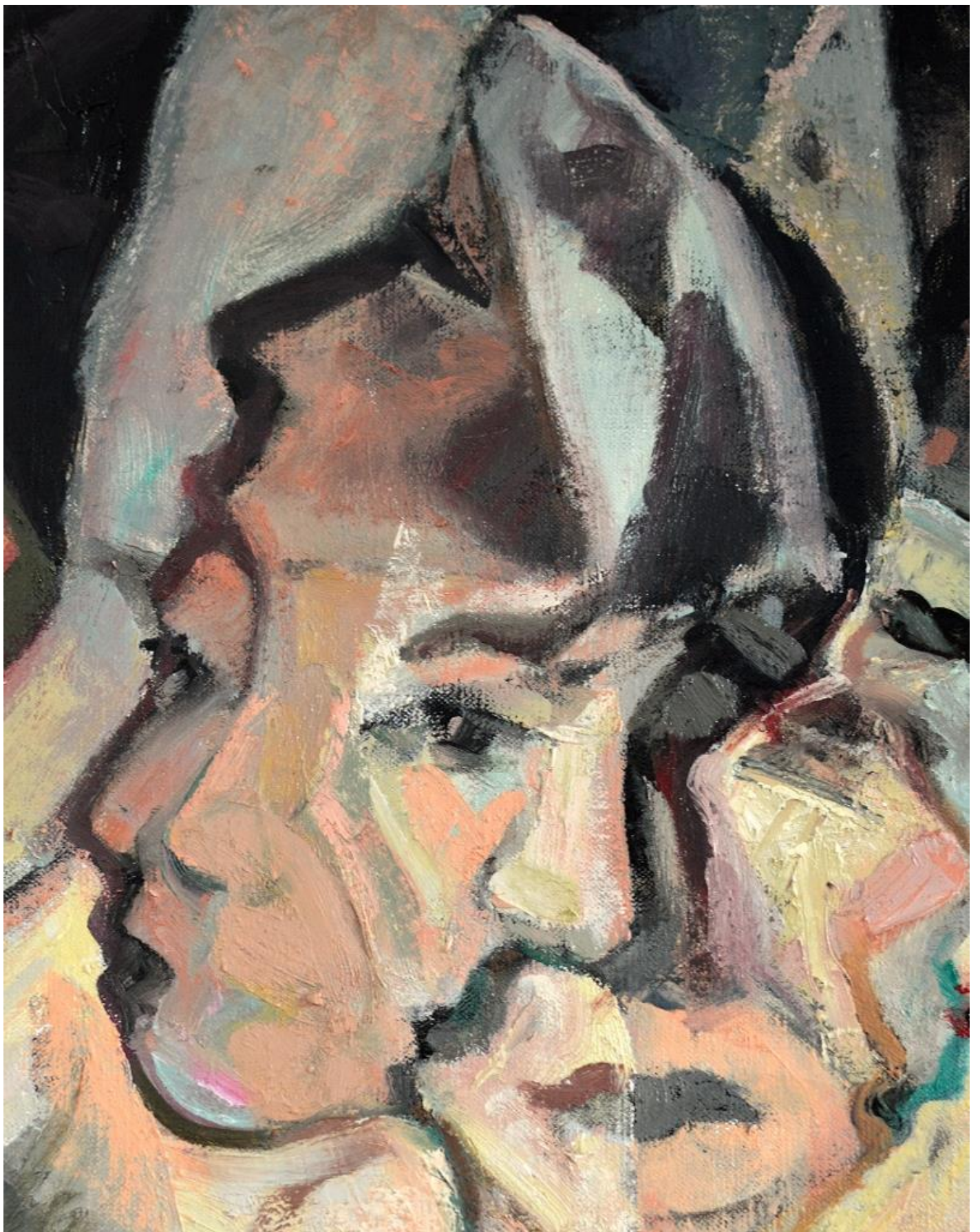




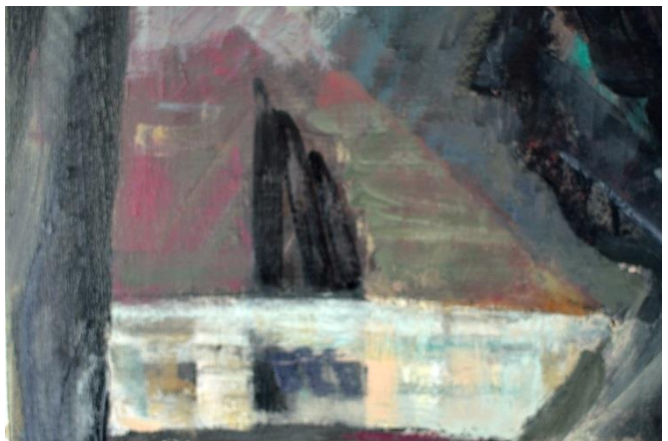
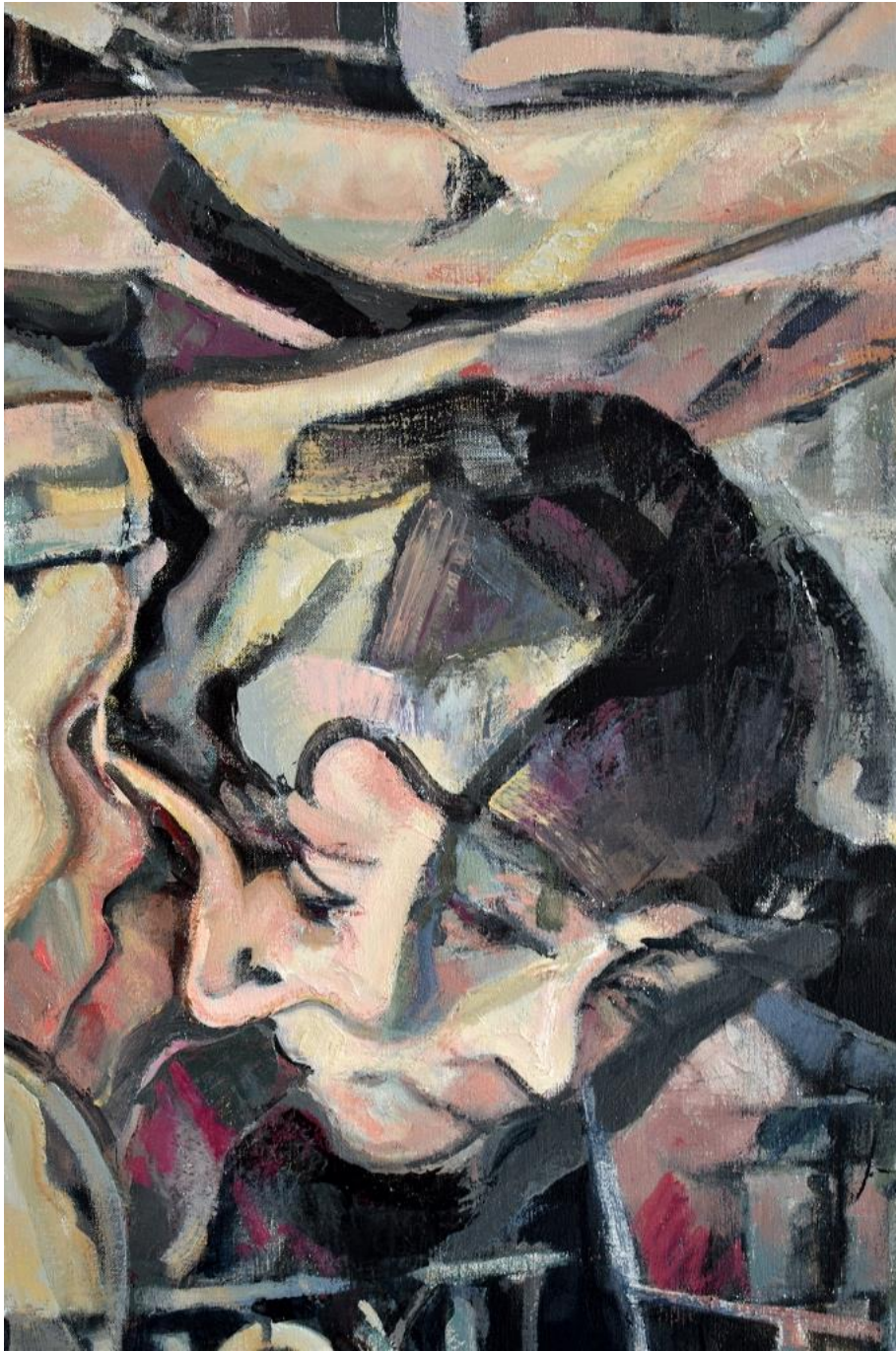




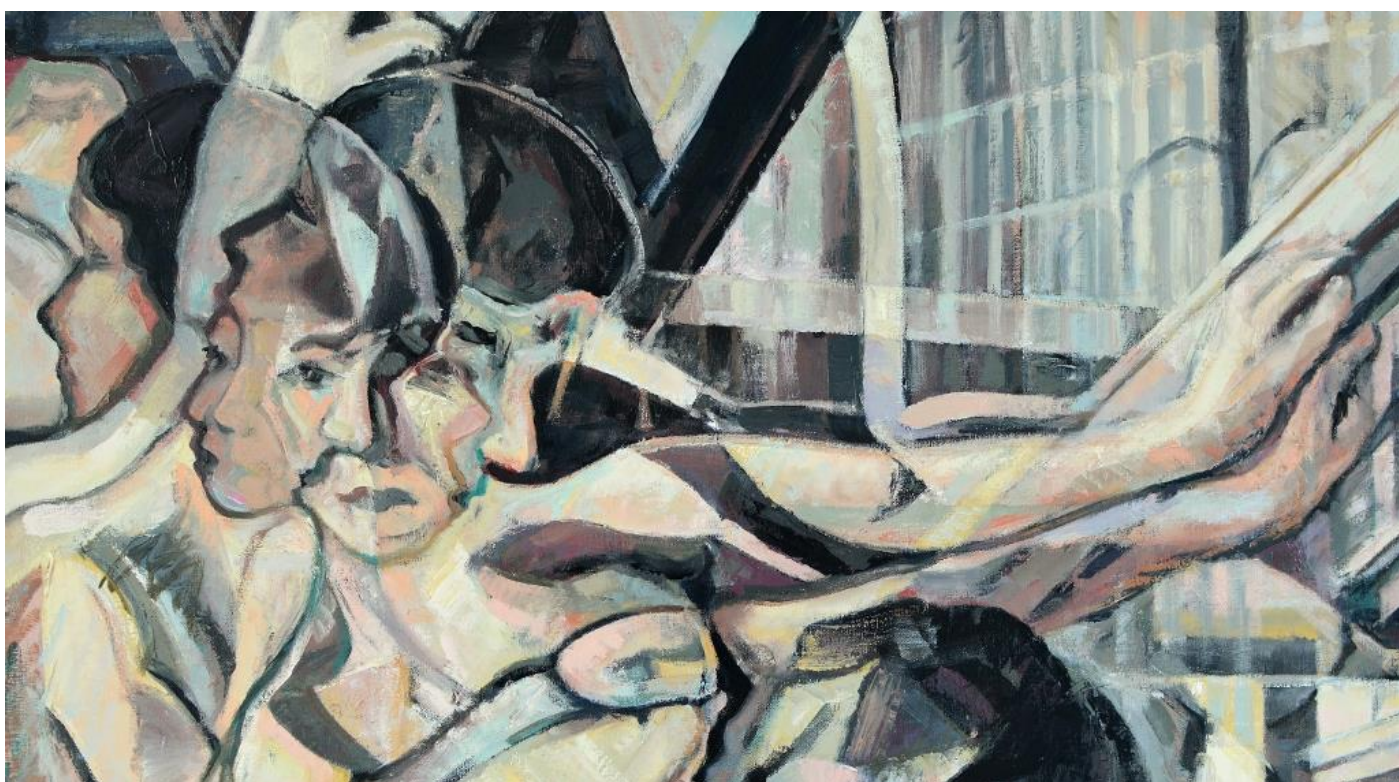
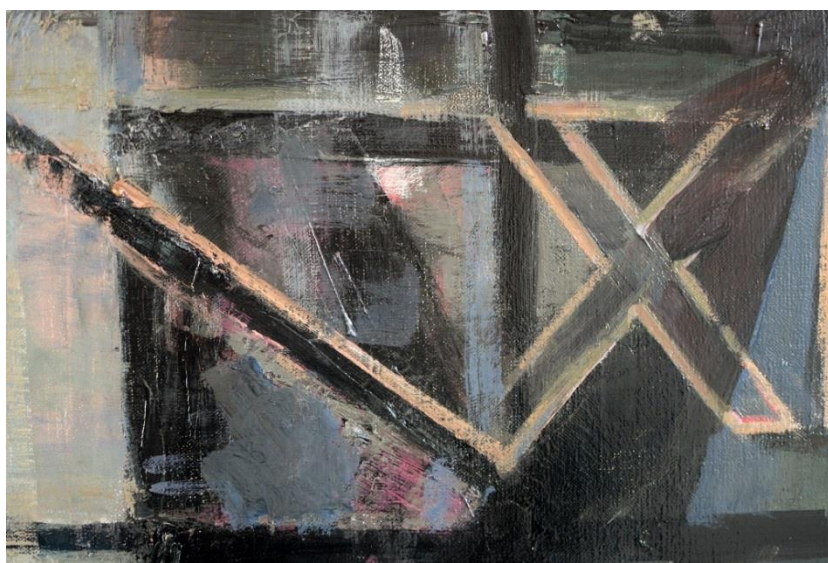
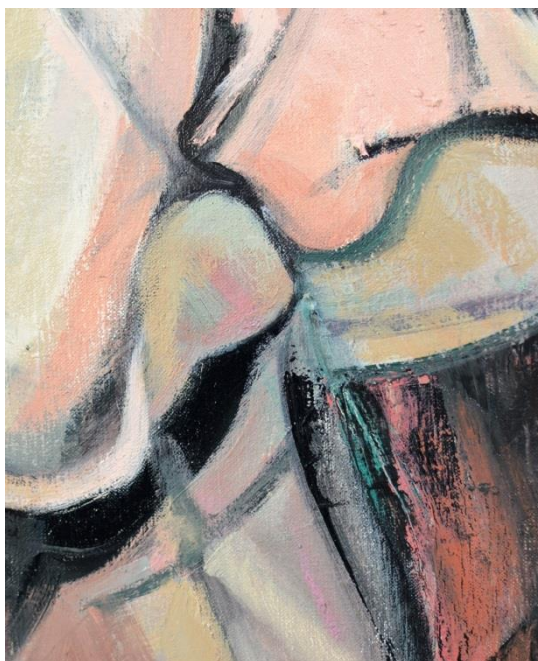




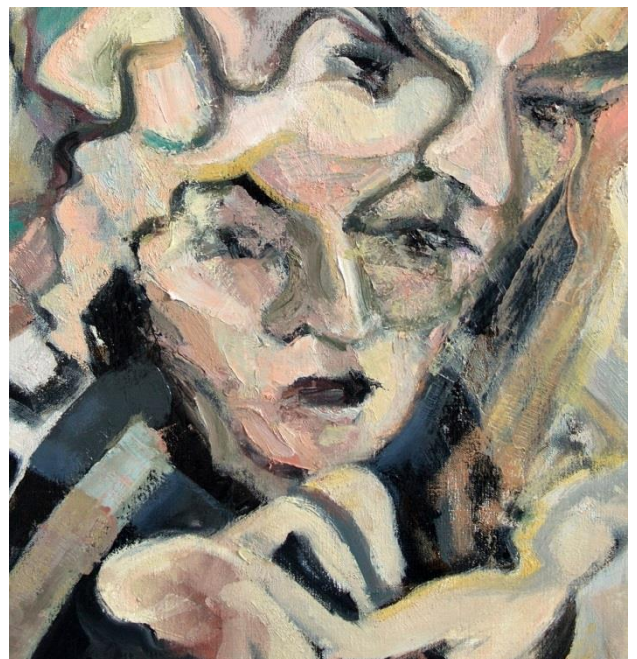
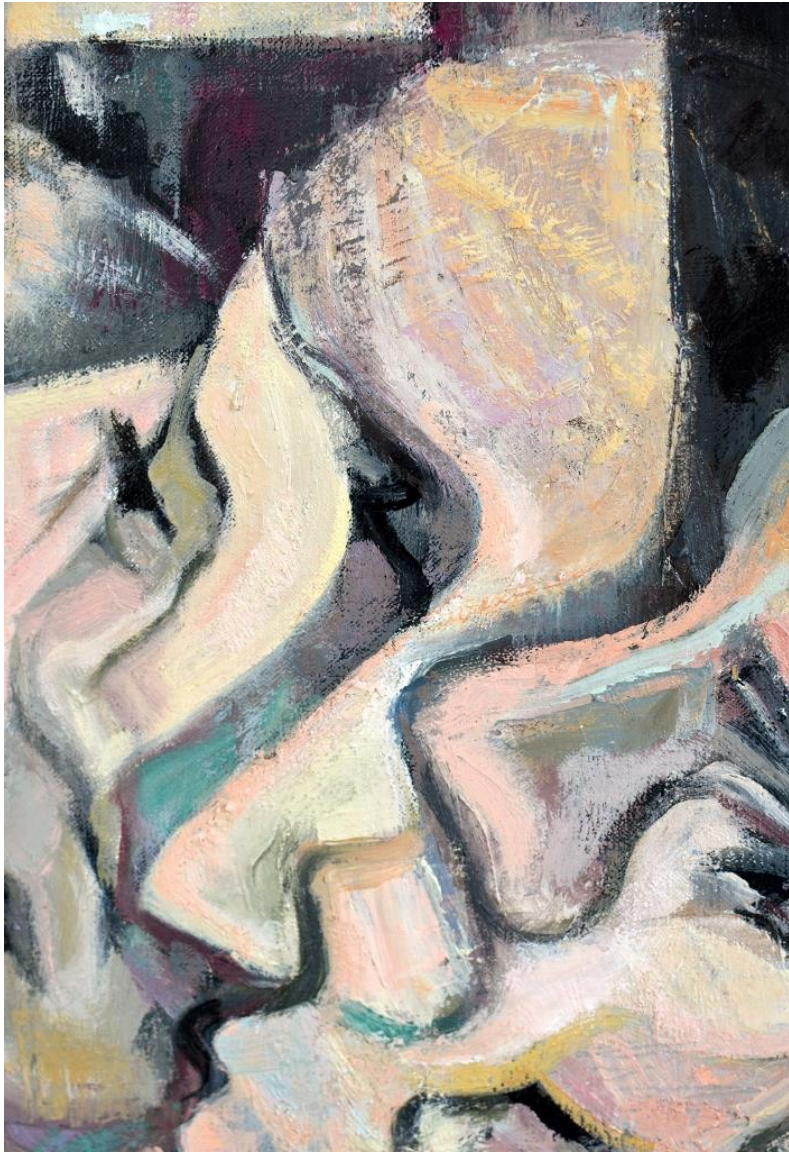
















*The King is Dead, Long Live the King* oil on canvas 78" x 93" 2018