

SYLVAIN LOUIS-SEIZE

Artist Statement

Nothing Stands Alone

By Katherine Ylitalo

Sylvain Louis-Seize's latest body of work operates within a quiet but insistent tension — between instability and cohesion, fragmentation and mutual reliance. His formative experiences being born and raised in Montréal within a context of precarity and hardship continue to inform a practice grounded in relational structures. What emerges is not autobiographical but a sustained inquiry into how individuals persist by creating and participating in systems of support rooted in experience.

This series arrives at a moment when social discourse is increasingly shaped by division and fragmentation. Louis-Seize resists this trajectory, proposing instead a visual language of interdependence. These recent sculptures, paintings and works on paper are composed of elements that appear precarious - leaning, offset, and structurally unresolved. Yet, they hold. Stability is not derived from symmetry or order, but from the negotiation between parts.

Here, colour is not decorative but affective. It functions as a carrier of energy—at times dissonant, at others cohesive—suggesting the variability of human presence within shared environments. These chromatic interactions do not resolve cleanly; rather, they accumulate, forming a kind of emotional architecture.

The artist's process is notably intuitive. An initial impulse—what might be understood as a form of embodied cognition is generative, followed by reflection and interpretation. This sequence resists predetermined meaning, allowing the work to retain a degree of openness. It is precisely this openness that situates the viewer as an active participant. Faced with imbalance that nevertheless sustains itself, one is prompted to consider not only what is seen, but how it holds—and by extension, what holds us.

Born in Montreal, Quebec, Sylvain works and lives in Calgary, AB Canada