



Elizabeth Hazan, *Horizon*, 2026 (detail). Oil and pastel on linen, 54 x 48 inches (137 x 121 cm). Courtesy of the artist and HESSE FLATOW, New York. Photo: James Wade.

## Elizabeth Hazan: *Double Fantasy*

February 13 - March 14, 2026

HESSE FLATOW presents *Double Fantasy*, a solo exhibition of new paintings by New York-based artist Elizabeth Hazan. In this recent body of work, Hazan continues her exploration of landscape as a fluid, imaginative space—one shaped as much by memory and sensation as by observation—where abstraction and representation drift into one another and forms appear to come into being before the viewer's eyes.

Hazan often describes her images as unfolding “quickly and vividly, like skywriting.” Across the canvases, organic forms of trees and clouds hover, merge, and dissolve, their contours unfixed and mutable. The paintings resist stable interpretation, unfolding instead with the logic of waking dreams or remembered landscapes—open, shifting, and alive, embracing a degree of ambiguity. Working from ink and watercolor drawings approached as a stream-of-consciousness exercise, Hazan translates the fluidity of these works into oil paint, allowing each iteration to retain a sense of immediacy and openness. Atmosphere, rather than perspective or narrative, becomes the organizing principle.

Hazan's approach is informed by François Cheng's *Empty and Full*, which describes emptiness in Chinese painting not as absence, but as a generative force, one in which vapor becomes mountain, mountain becomes waterfall, and then vanishes again. In *Double Fantasy*, long contours hover along the edges of the picture plane, at times reading as trees, at times as human forms, and at others dissolving into clouds. Air circulates through the compositions as a sensual, animating substance. As critic Raphael Rubinstein observes, “what is paint, after all, but suspended particles of color into which we gaze?” In Hazan's paintings, air is made visible—charged, palpable, and dreamlike—suggesting a world in which climate and interior experience begin to converge.

The exhibition takes its title from *Double Fantasy*, the 1980 album by John Lennon and Yoko Ono. For Hazan, the phrase speaks both to the mirage-like quality of her painted language and to the recurring motif of trees appearing in pairs or grouping, forms that “recombine almost like dancers on a stage.” Branches reach, touch, and lean toward one another, suggesting intimacy, coupling, and mutual support. The idea of fantasy underscores the impermanence and fluidity of these images, allowing meaning to remain deliberately unresolved.

# HESSE FLATOW

Rooted in Hazan's deep engagement with landscape and abstraction, *Double Fantasy* presents paintings that feel both conjured and embodied—visions of nature filtered through memory, atmosphere, and sensation, and offered as spaces of reflection, quiet wonder, and possibility. As climate and weather increasingly register as unstable and uncanny, Hazan's landscapes take on a dreamlike intensity—suggesting a world in which exterior conditions feel ever closer to psychological terrain.

**Elizabeth Hazan (b. 1965)** was born and raised in New York City and attended Bryn Mawr College and the New York Studio School. She was awarded a fellowship to the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, has twice been a resident of Yaddo, and received a grant from the Peter S. Reed Foundation. Recent shows include *Weather*, Pamela Salisbury Gallery, Hudson, NY; *Under the Sun*, HESSE FLATOW, NY; *Trodden Path*, HESSE FLATOW East, Amagansett NY; *Sundown*, Madoo Conservancy, Sagaponack, NY; *High Noon*, Duck Creek Art Center, Springs, NY; *Psychedelic Landscape*, Eric Firestone Gallery, NY; *Body to Land*, Turn Gallery, NY; and *Heat Wave*, Johannes Vogt Gallery, NY. Her work has been written about in *Hyperallergic*, *Forbes*, *Two Coats of Paint*, *Art Critical*, *The Brooklyn Rail* and *The Art Newspaper*. She serves as the founder and director of Platform Project Space in Brooklyn, NY. The artist is represented by HESSE FLATOW, New York.

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**HESSE FLATOW** is a gallery and curatorial platform founded by artist Karen Hesse Flatow in 2019. It had its start as "Crush Curatorial", where many artists we work with today had their debut solo show. Hesse Flatow has an MBA and an MFA from Columbia University and attended the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. The program focuses on emerging and mid-career artists with diverse voices, presenting debut solo shows and focused presentations. We are located in an accessible ground floor space in Tribeca, New York City.