

May 5 through July 21, 2024

# *If I Had It To Do All Over Again*

paintings by  
**Kevin Kelly**  
of Wichita, Kansas



*If I Had It To Do All Over Again* by Kevin Kelly, 2024, acrylic on canvas, 50 x 66 inches

## Artist Information

The story of painting was partially supposed to be about uncovering creative possibilities, freezing an artistic gesture, and finding an individual identity. These artworks awkwardly occupy that space between a romanticized, painterly experience of the world and the unromantic surroundings of the Midwest I grew up in. That landscape is characterized by utility, heavy-handed social and political messaging, and a restrained dialect. But both worlds are colored by nostalgia, memory, and moments of joy. I am looking through the cracks of painting, looking for the margins as I dissect its processes. By taking painted gestures and my surroundings out of their normal contexts, I hope to give both a fighting chance.

## Artist Biography

Kevin Kelly is an artist and educator from the middle of America. He earned his Bachelor of Art Education in 2001, and his MFA in painting from Wichita State University in 2008. His artwork is held in many private collections across the United States and has been recognized through the Golden Artist Residency, the Mother's Milk Artist Residency, the Harvester Arts Community Fellowship program, and the Oklahoma Visual Arts Commission. Kelly has been featured in group and solo exhibits in Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and New York for the last 15 years. His work has been featured in several publications, including *New American Paintings*, *Studio Visit* magazine, and the book *Wichita Artists in Their Studios*.



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