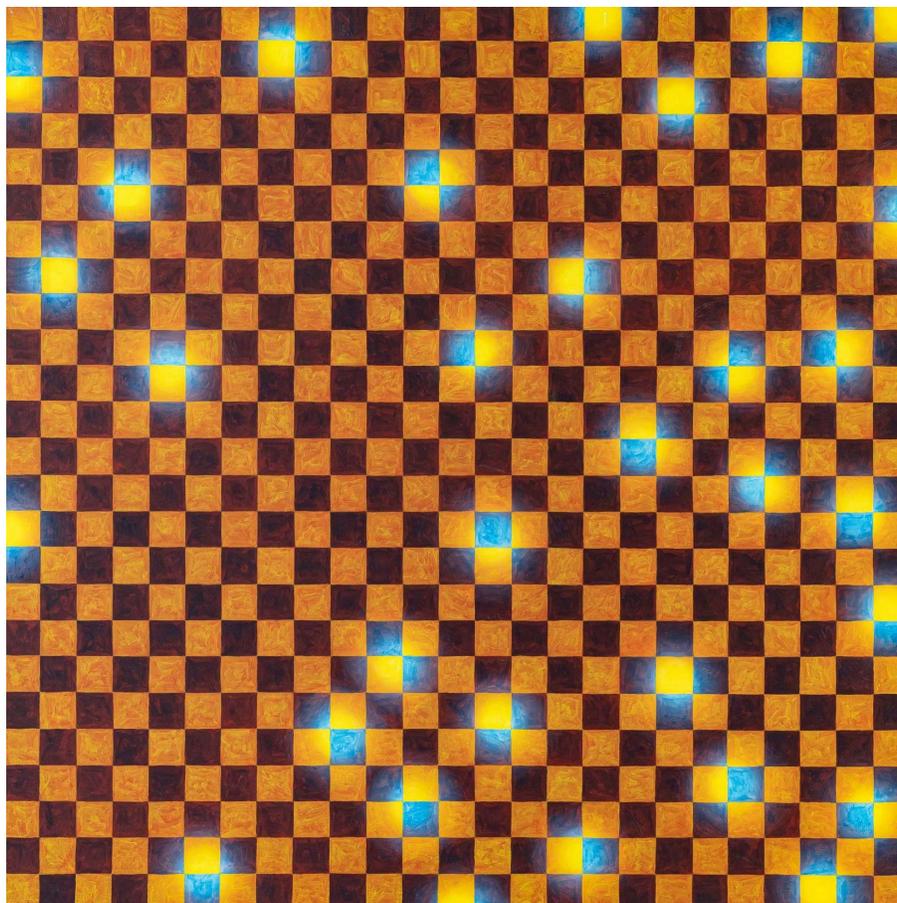


# MIGNONI

**Peter Schuyff: *Recent Works***  
**MIGNONI | New York City**  
**September 9 – December 17, 2022**



Peter Schuyff *Resden*, 2021. Oil on linen, 39  $\frac{3}{8}$  x 39  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. (100 x 100 cm)

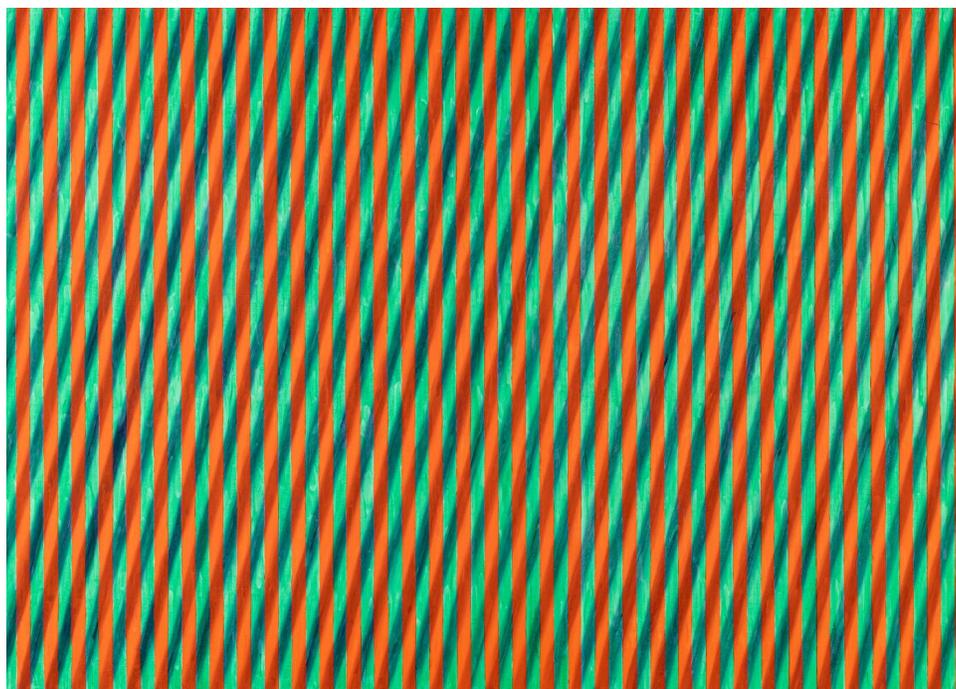
**NEW YORK, NY** – Mignoni is pleased to present the gallery's first exhibition with Dutch born American painter Peter Schuyff (b.1958) on view from September 9 through December 17. This will be a solo exhibition showcasing a startling new group of 8 vibrant and colourful abstract paintings made by the artists throughout 2021 at his studio in Bari, Southern Italy.

Taking the form of either a checkerboard grid or a succession of vertical, coloured stripes that have been disrupted by illusionistic light effects or shadows appearing to fall upon their surfaces from some unknown, exterior source, these powerful geometric paintings playfully operate in an ambiguous space that is simultaneously both representational and abstract. Functioning according to their own logic, they belong to a type of work that Schuyff has made consistently, ever since first coming to prominence in New York in the 1980s.

It is, however, only in their rich use of heightened and more vibrant colours and of sharp light contrasts reminiscent of the effects of strong sunlight falling over their surfaces that Schuyff's recent paintings reflect the influence of his new working locale in a small, Pugliese studio overlooking the Mediterranean. In all other

respects, the eight radiant paintings on show at Mignoni remain consistent with the painterly practice that, in the 1980s, established Schuyff as a leading pioneer of the 'Neo-Geo' movement - a tendency that included other such diverse talents as Peter Halley, Phillip Taaffe, Alan McCollum, David Reed, Ashley Bickerton and Jeff Koons. Schuyff, for his part has always remained resistant towards any attempts at labelling or categorising his work and has often attempted to disassociate himself from the constraints of the 'Neo Geo' label. He once, for instance, wryly disarmed a journalist, by telling her that he only agreed with the term 'Neo-Geo' as he 'supposed' he was "neo" because I'm very young and ... "geo" because I make geometric pictures.'<sup>1</sup>

Schuyff's paintings are all self-evidently hand-crafted and indeed the 'wrist-action' involved in their making is the one area over which he takes direct responsibility. Believing, for the most part, that the creation of one painting both determines and informs the development of the next. Schuyff often thinks of his role as a kind of medium or translator of his painting's demands. 'My work has a life of its own', he has said. 'I see my presence in their making as the vehicle through which they're made [and to me it's a matter of getting out of the way].'<sup>2</sup> Schuyff believes, for example, that some of his best work comes about when he allows the innate mystery of his pictures to emerge by removing himself as much as possible from the decision process, allowing his pictures to dictate their own needs. 'I start off a painting very simply with an idea of the structure and from that a kind of obsessiveness develops that renders spirituality almost inevitable, and the work takes on a life of its own', he told Valerie Gladstone back in 1988, adding more recently that 'some of my best abstract paintings were reduced to a clearly simple set of rules which I simply had to follow till the end. I have to pay a lot of attention while taking little or no responsibility'.<sup>3</sup>



Peter Schuyff *Blind Drunk*, 2021. Oil on linen, 39 3/8 x 55 1/8 in. (100 x 140 cm)

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<sup>1</sup> Peter Schuyff quoted in Valerie Gladstone, 'Peter Schuyff's New Math', *ArtNews*, March, 1988, p. 156

<sup>2</sup> Peter Schuyff 'Art of Choice' Interview, 2021

<sup>3</sup> Peter Schuyff, quoted in 'Peter Schuyff: New Paintings' curated by Katharine Kostyál, White Cube Mason's Yard, London, 13 March – 8 August 2020.

## About the artist

Peter Schuyff (Baarn, Netherlands 1958) is a painter, sculptor and musician. Schuyff grew up in Vancouver, Canada, after moving there with his family as a boy, later going on to study at the Vancouver School of Art. He was a prominent member of the Neo-Geo movement in New York during the 1980's showing with Pat Hearn, Gagosian and Leo Castelli Gallery. In 2017 Le Consortium, Dijon, presented 'Has Been' a retrospective of Schuyff's work made between 1981-89. In 2005 he moved to Amsterdam and then in 2020, during lockdown, he began working in a studio in Bari, Southern Italy. His more recent public exhibitions include Massimo de Carlo Pièce Unique, Paris (2022), White Cube, London (2020), Mary Boone Gallery, New York (2015); Whitney Biennial, (2014); New Museum of Contemporary Art, NY (2005); and The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, (1996). Schuyff's work can be found in the permanent collections of MOMA, NY; MOCA, LA; Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY and The Fisher Landau Foundation, NY. Schuyff lives and works in Amsterdam, NL and Bari, IT.



## About Mignoni



Mignoni, based in New York, specializes in works by prominent European & American post-war artists with a focus on minimalism.

The gallery advises institutions and private clients in acquiring works by a renowned group of artists, including Alexander Calder, Donald Judd, Rudolf Stingel, Ed Ruscha, John Chamberlain, Adolph Gottlieb, Lucio Fontana, and Eduardo Chillida, among others.

The gallery presents two to three high-quality exhibitions each year. Past exhibitions include solo presentations by Donald Judd, Sol LeWitt, and Frank Stella and group shows featuring the work of Dan Flavin, Donald Judd, On Kawara, Robert Mangold, Kenneth Noland, Joel Shapiro, and Christopher Wilmarth.

Fernando Mignoni founded the gallery in January 2017. Previously at Christie's London for nearly a decade, he left as Director of the Contemporary Art Department in 2007 to join his family's gallery, Galeria Elvira Gonzalez, Madrid. From 2007 to 2017, he ran the secondary market program both at the gallery and art fairs. He also organized shows by Donald Judd (2009), John Chamberlain (2010), Alexander Calder (2010), Dan Flavin/Donald Judd (2013), and Robert Mangold (2017). Mignoni is an expert in the work of Donald Judd, Agnes Martin, Alexander Calder, Robert Mangold, Lucio Fontana, and Eduardo Chillida.