



SELF-SURVEILLANCE

JESSICA NASCIMENTO
OPENING THURSDAY, APRIL 2ND 6-9PM
THE BIRDCAGE  815 SUTTER STREET, SF

Self-Surveillance is an introspective body of work exploring self-critique and self-examination through self-portraiture. Across ten paintings, the artist reflects on personal patterns of behavior and thought, offering a candid meditation on the act of “seeing oneself, seeing oneself.” The work challenges traditional, romanticized notions of portraiture, instead favoring honesty over idealization and inviting the viewer into a more vulnerable and unfiltered perspective.

Working primarily in oil, the artist begins with reference photography and charcoal studies to establish composition before building and preparing each canvas by hand. A vivid underpainting, often in bright pinks or oranges, sets the tone for the final work, where layers of oil paint are developed through a balance of control and intuition.

A self-taught figurative artist based in San Francisco, her practice is rooted in capturing authenticity and questioning the viewer’s gaze. Drawing from over a decade of experience in watercolor, she transitioned to oil painting in 2022 after a formative copyist workshop in Paris. Her work often centers on the lived experience of womanhood, using self-portraiture as a means of navigating identity, perception, and presence. She develops her ideas at home before completing her paintings at her studio in the Hunter’s Point Shipyard.

Showing April 2nd– May 22nd