

S/O/C/I/E/T/Y & C/U/L/T/U/R/E



PHOTO BY IAN BYERS-GAMBER

L.A. STATE OF MIND

Having moved to Los Angeles after college, painter and ceramicist **Nick McPhail** found himself at a crossroads, considering a move to New York. But when a pit stop in Detroit didn't pan out as planned, he returned to the City of Angels. "*Pacific Standard Time* was happening. I saw the city with new eyes and thought 'L.A.'s got it going on!'" Newly captivated, McPhail found himself inspired by the topography that has intrigued other artists, including David Hockney, with whom his bright, colorful landscapes draw easy comparison. A ceramics studio in McPhail's backyard provides an alternative outlet for his creativity. Along with shows at Ochi Projects planned for later this year, he's finalizing a mural that will be installed on Sunset Boulevard between Echo Park Ave and Laveta Terrace. "To put a piece on the street where my source imagery comes from is exciting," he says. Turns out, home is where the art is. nickmcpail.com
—Abigail Stone

} Nick McPhail, "Levels"
(2018, oil on paper), 36
inches by 48 inches