



# Hiatus

A pause or gap in a sequence, series, or process.

Eric M. Olson

April 6-22, 2023

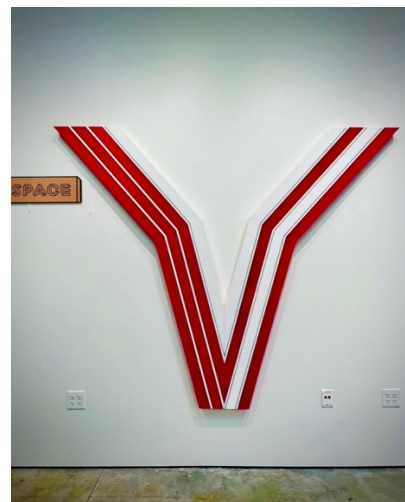
Eight of the ten works featured in this show were conceived of between 1974 and 1984 as pencil and watercolor sketches with the vague notion that someday they might be rendered as large-scale acrylic paintings. These works were heavily influenced by the hard-edge painters of the 1960's and 1970's – most notably Frank Stella – along with Joseph Albers's work on color theory that I encountered in a series of design courses as an undergraduate student at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon.

**Painting Titles:** There were no titles affixed to my original watercolors. When I decided to turn them into full-sized paintings, I concluded it was time to rectify that. But the ideas that bounced around in my head all seemed synthetic or merely record keeping in nature (e.g., hard edged painting #1). There was no real relationship between title and concept. So, I started thinking back to when these designs were formed and the epiphany that emerged was to adopt titles from songs around the era in which they were conceived that shared uplifting messages. Any meanings assigned to these works would have been conducted strictly post-hoc, which means your interpretations are just as valid as mine.

## Better Days

*Tonight, this fool's halfway to heaven and just a  
mile outta hell and I feel like I'm comin' home.  
These are better days  
Better days are shining through.*

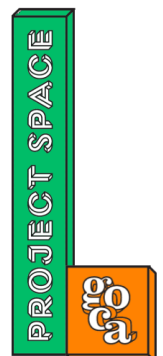
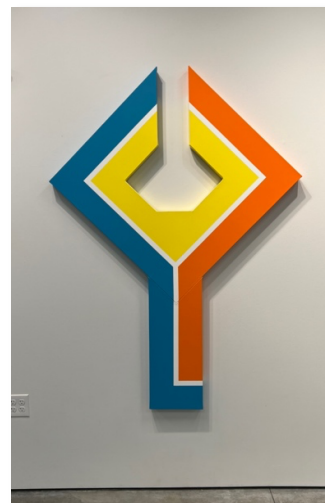
*Bruce Springsteen 1992*



## Somewhere Over China

*We're all somewhere over China  
Headin' east or headin' west  
Takin' time to live a little  
Flying so far from the nest.*

*Jimmy Buffett 1982*





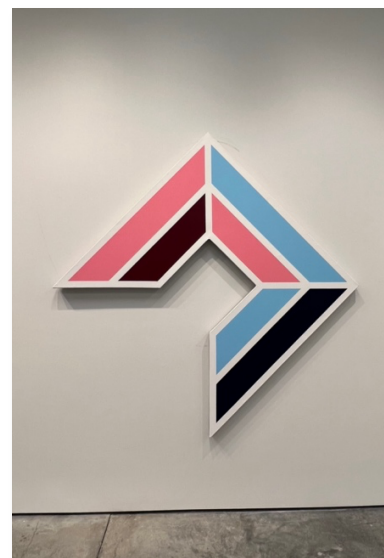
### Everything's Coming Our Way

*Brand new day,  
Fresh new way to live,  
The mornin' is callin'  
Walk with me into the sun  
Everything is comin' our way*  
Carlos Santana 1971



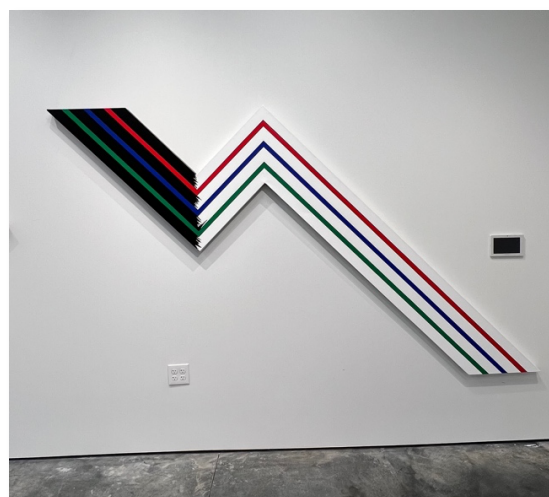
### Forever Young

*And when you finally fly away I'll be hopin' that I served you well  
For all the wisdom of a lifetime no one can ever tell  
But whatever road you choose  
I'm right behind you, win or lose  
For-ever young*  
Bob Dylan, Jim Cregan, Kevin Savigar, Rod Stewart 1988



### Across the Universe

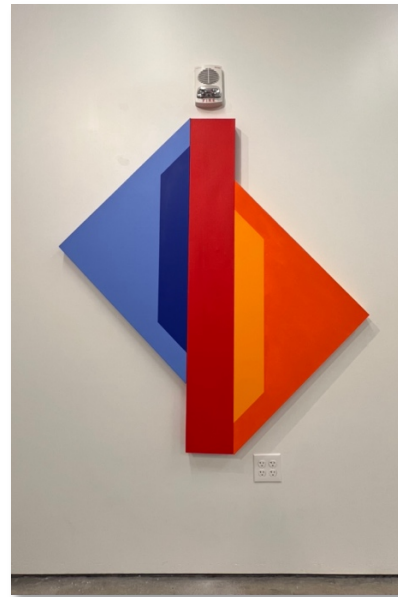
*Limitless undying love which shines around  
me like a million suns  
It calls me on and on across the universe*  
John Lennon 1968





### Reminiscing

*Hurry, don't be late, I can hardly wait  
I said to myself when we're old  
We'll go dancing in the dark  
Walking through the park and reminiscing*  
Graeham Goble 1978



### Runnin Down a Dream

*Yeah, runnin' down a dream  
That never would come to me  
Workin' on a mystery, goin' wherever it leads  
Runnin' down a dream*  
Tom Petty 1989



### Avalon

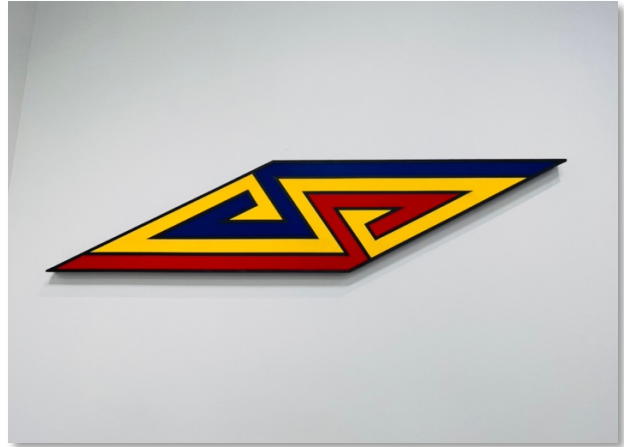
*Yes, the picture's changing  
Every moment  
And your destination  
You don't know it Avalon*  
Bryan Ferry 1982



The last two paintings were conceived and created in 2022. Unlike the other pieces that were crafted to adhere to earlier designs, these reversed the process by requiring designs to be fitted into scraps of plywood left over from earlier project.

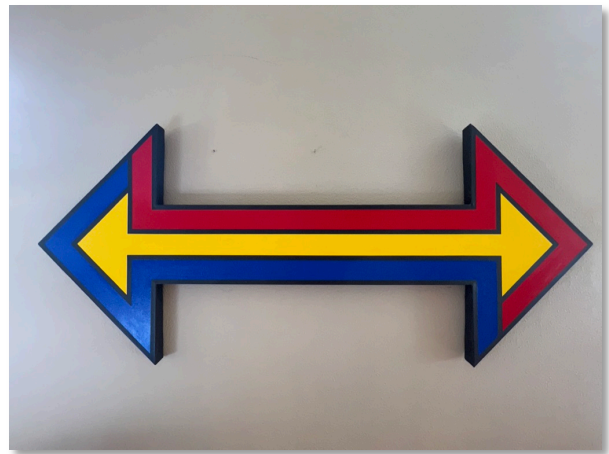
### Everybody Wants to Rule the World

*So glad we've almost made it  
So sad they had to fade it  
Everybody wants to rule the world  
Orzabal, Stanley, & Hughes 1985*

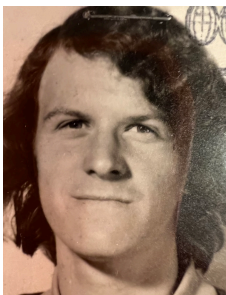


### Walk Like a Man

*Well so much has happened to me  
That I don't understand  
All I can think of is being five years old  
following behind you at the beach  
Tracing your footprints in the sand  
Trying to walk like a man  
Bruce Springsteen 1987*



**Closing Comment:** My mother's passion for learning was a major influence that brought me to a career in academe. But it was my father that brought the world of fine art into my life. Without his example it is unlikely this show would have been possible. He was a gifted artists who was as comfortable in oil painting as he was in pencil drawing as he was in bronze casting as he was in wood carving. Commercially he could not command the prices his works deserved so he made a living for his family through the teaching of art – and I am so much the richer for it.



For more information on these or other artwork, please contact me at [emolson1@mac.ccom](mailto:emolson1@mac.ccom)

