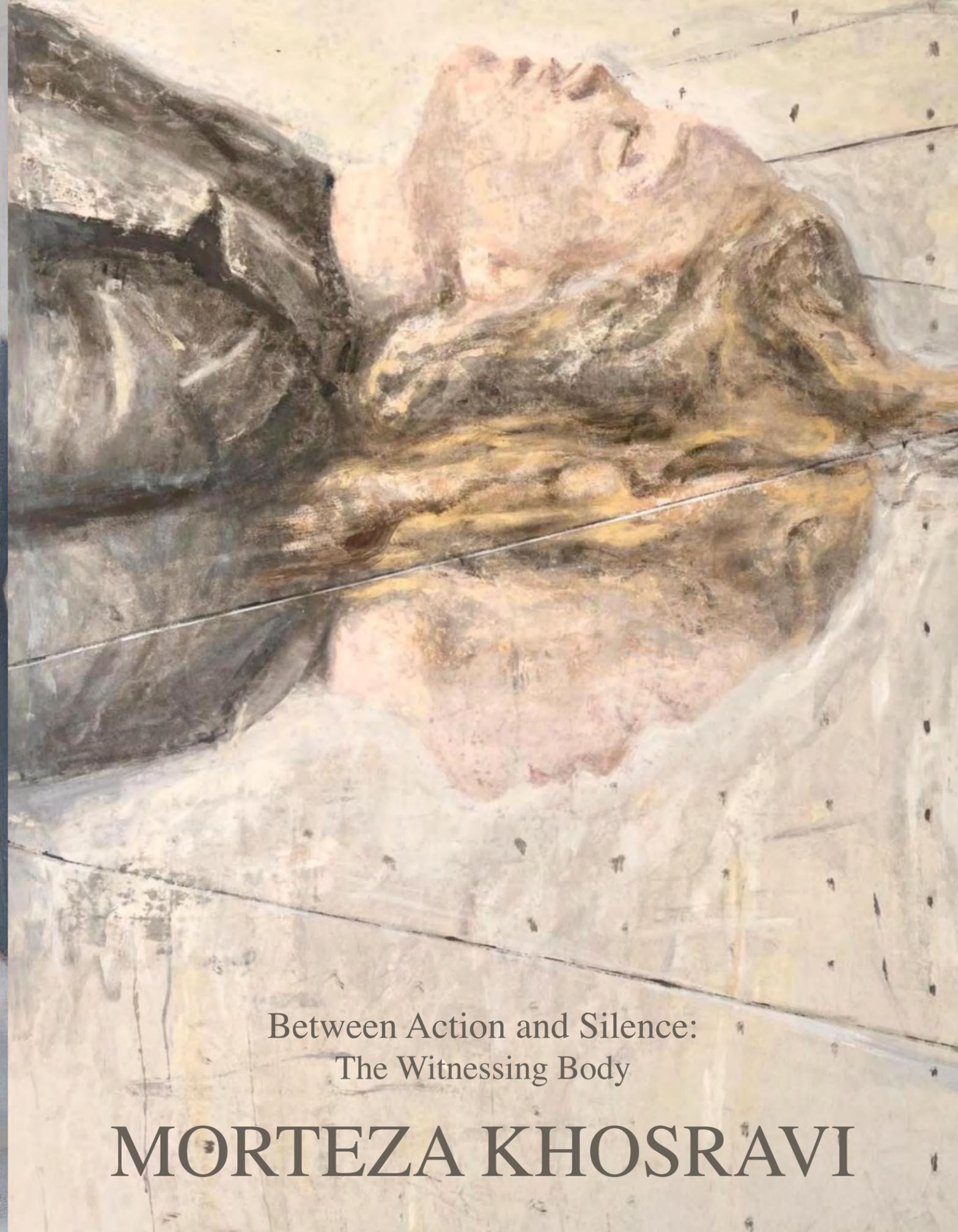




LEILA HELLER GALLERY.



Between Action and Silence:  
The Witnessing Body

MORTEZA KHOSRAVI



Published on the occasion of the exhibition  
*Between Action and Silence: The Witnessing Body*  
February 24 - April 17, 2026

**LEILA HELLER GALLERY.**

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Front Cover Image: *Series of The Stroll of Reflections*, 2025  
Inside Cover Images: *From Series of Noise I In Praise of Pasolini*, 2025  
Back Cover Image: *From Series of Noise I In Praise of Pasolini*, 2025

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## *Between Action and Silence* *The Witnessing Body*

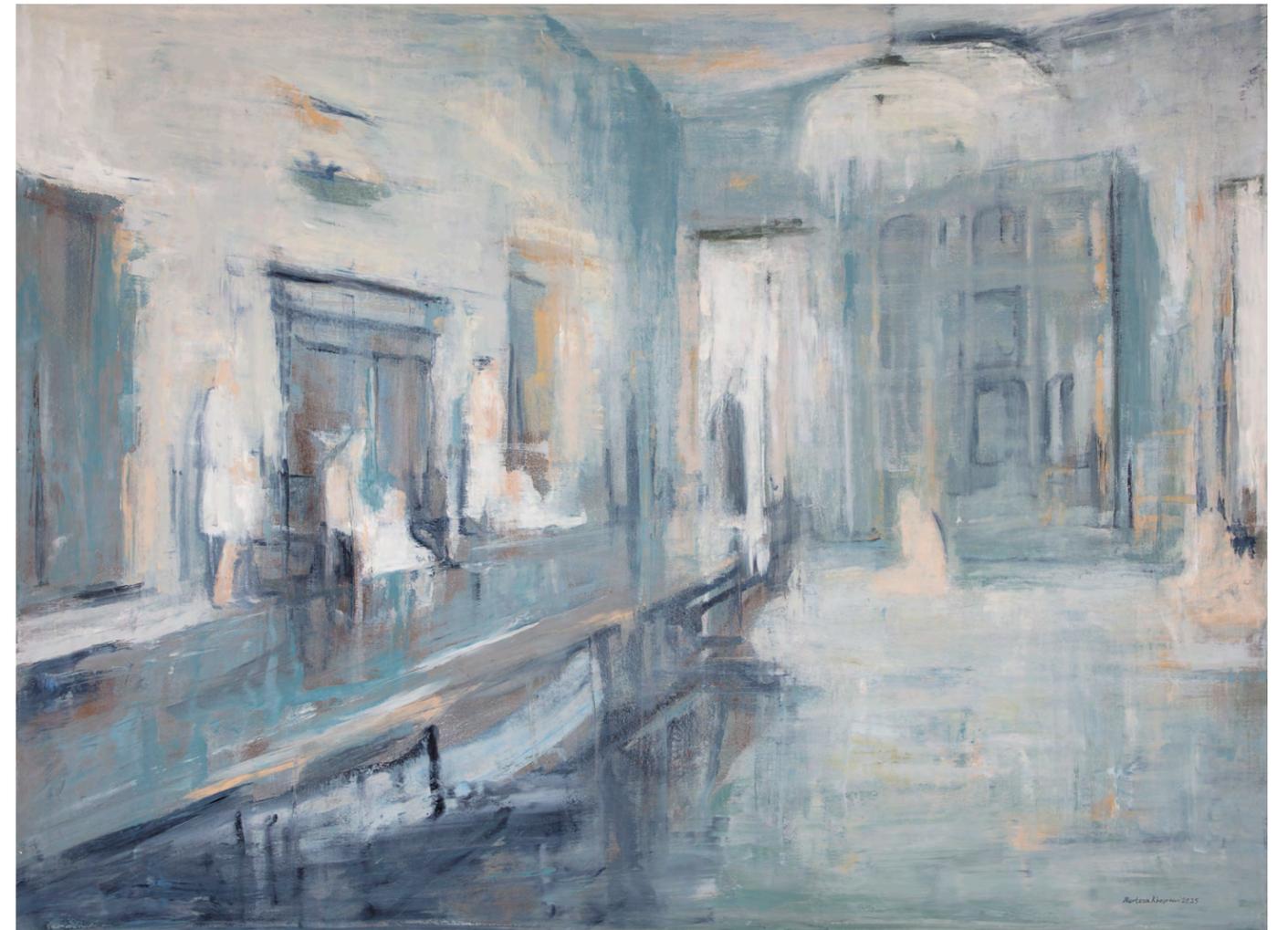
This body of work unfolds in the space between action and silence—a space for contemplation and to re-encounter the image.

The paintings draw from two primary sources: Pier Paolo Pasolini's film *Salò* and a selection of archival images and photographs taken by the artist. Despite their different subjects, the works converge around the image as a site where beauty, violence, memory, and interpretation are intertwined.

In some paintings, the compositional structure of the cinematic frame is preserved, yet the image is reinterpreted into the language of painting through shifts in palette and texture. In most others, stretching, fading and destruction of forms, are compressing the intensity of a cinematic narrative into a single painted moment. This approach is not a reconstruction of cinema, but rather a painterly dialogue with it.

Ambiguity and movement toward the threshold of abstraction allow for diverse interpretations and grant autonomy to the works. In this series, the body is not merely the subject of the image, but a presence as a "witnessing body"; a presence that simultaneously carries traces of harm and the potential for transformation. The layers of color and line are structured in such a way that the process of formation—and even the destruction—of the image on the canvas remains visible. This visibility of process refers to the time spent upon the body: the accumulation of experience, change, and erosion that imprints itself upon the body.

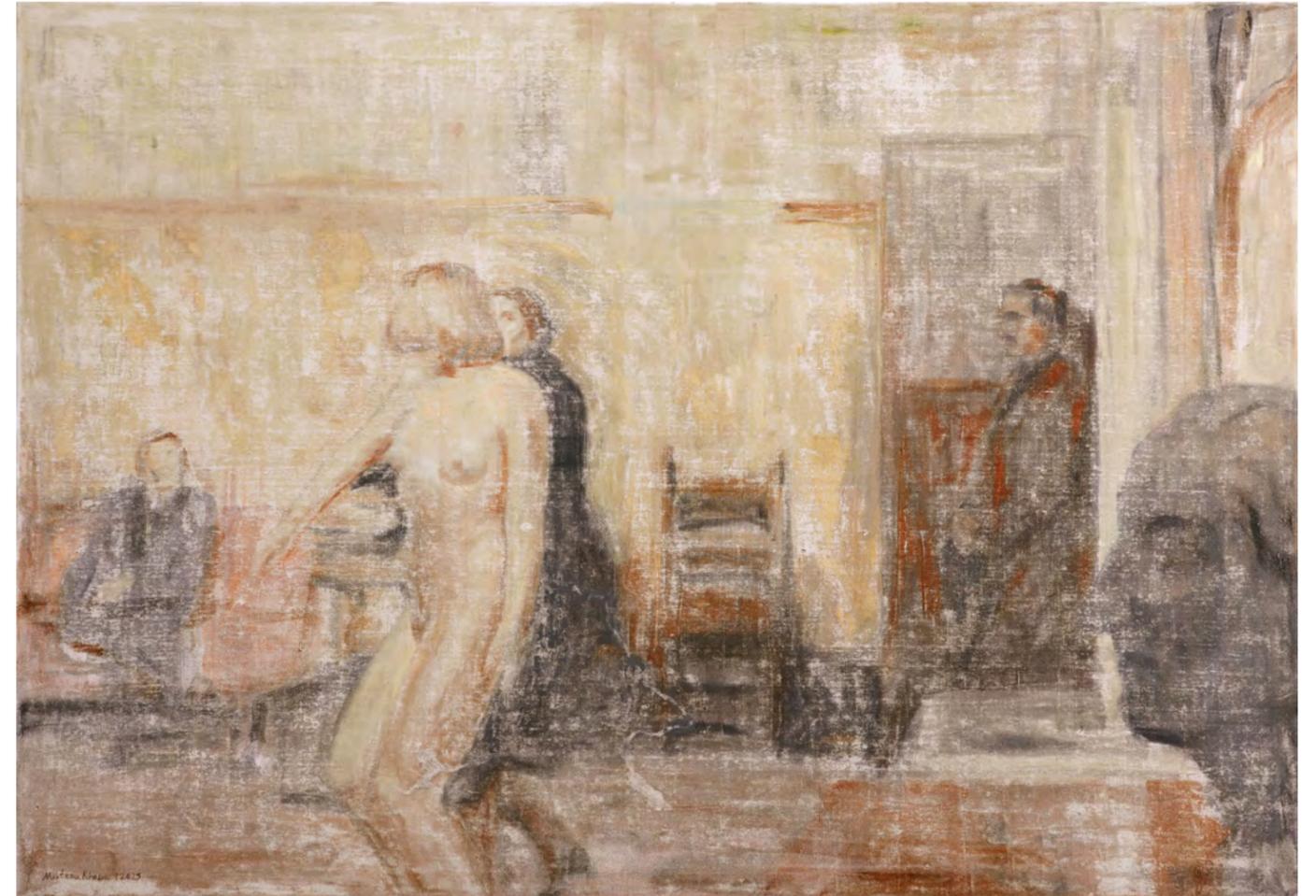
This series invites the viewer to a renewed contemplation; between seeing and seeing again.



*Series of Noise I In Praise of Pasolini, 2025*  
Oil on Canvas  
130h x 180w cm / 51h x 70w in.



*Series of Noise I In Praise of Pasolini, 2025*  
Oil on Canvas  
130h x 180w cm / 51h x 70w in.



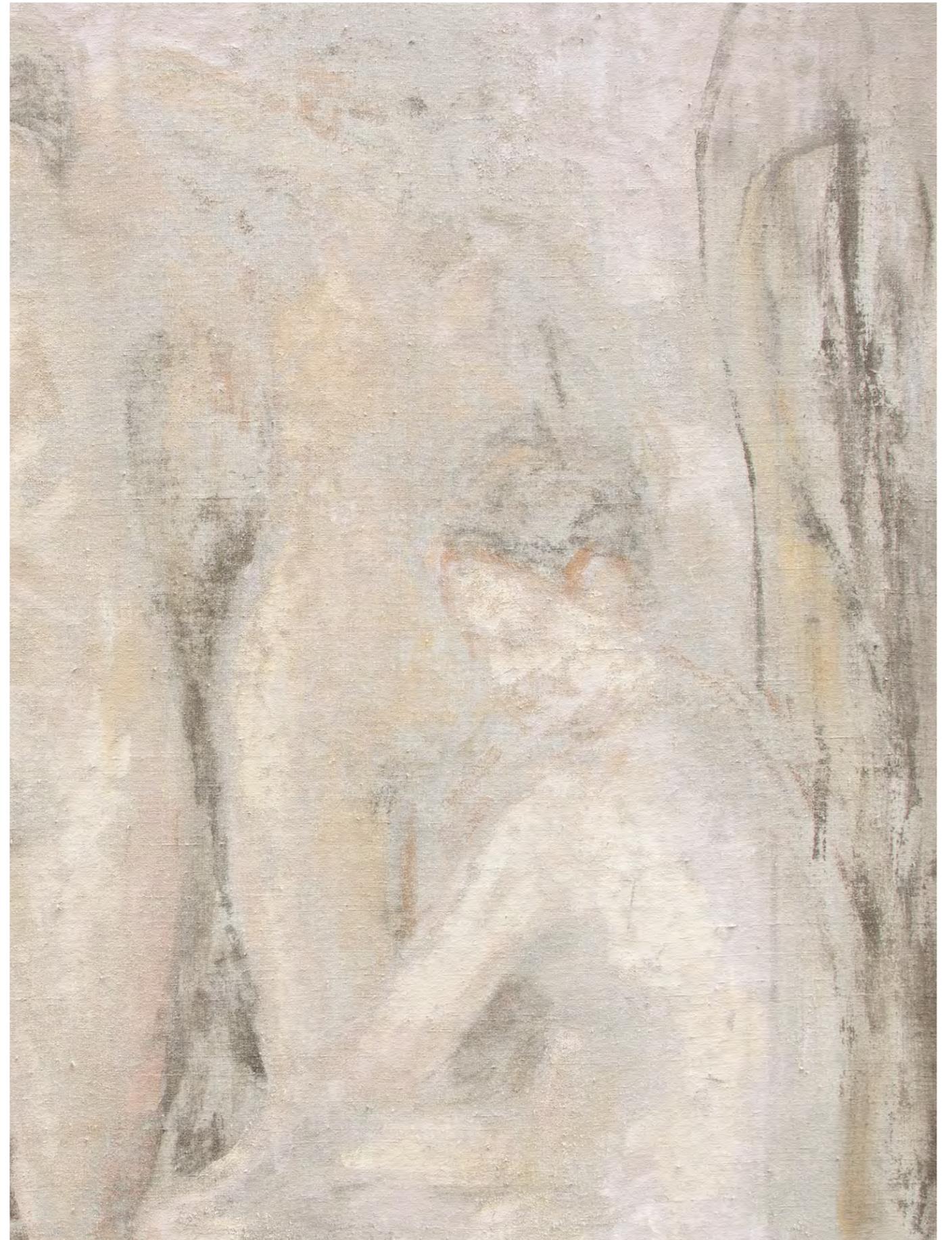
*Series of Noise I In Praise of Pasolini, 2025*  
Oil on Linen  
130h x 180w cm / 51h x 70w in.



*Series of Noise I In Praise of Pasolini*, 2025  
Oil on Canvas  
190h x 290w cm / 74h x 114w in.

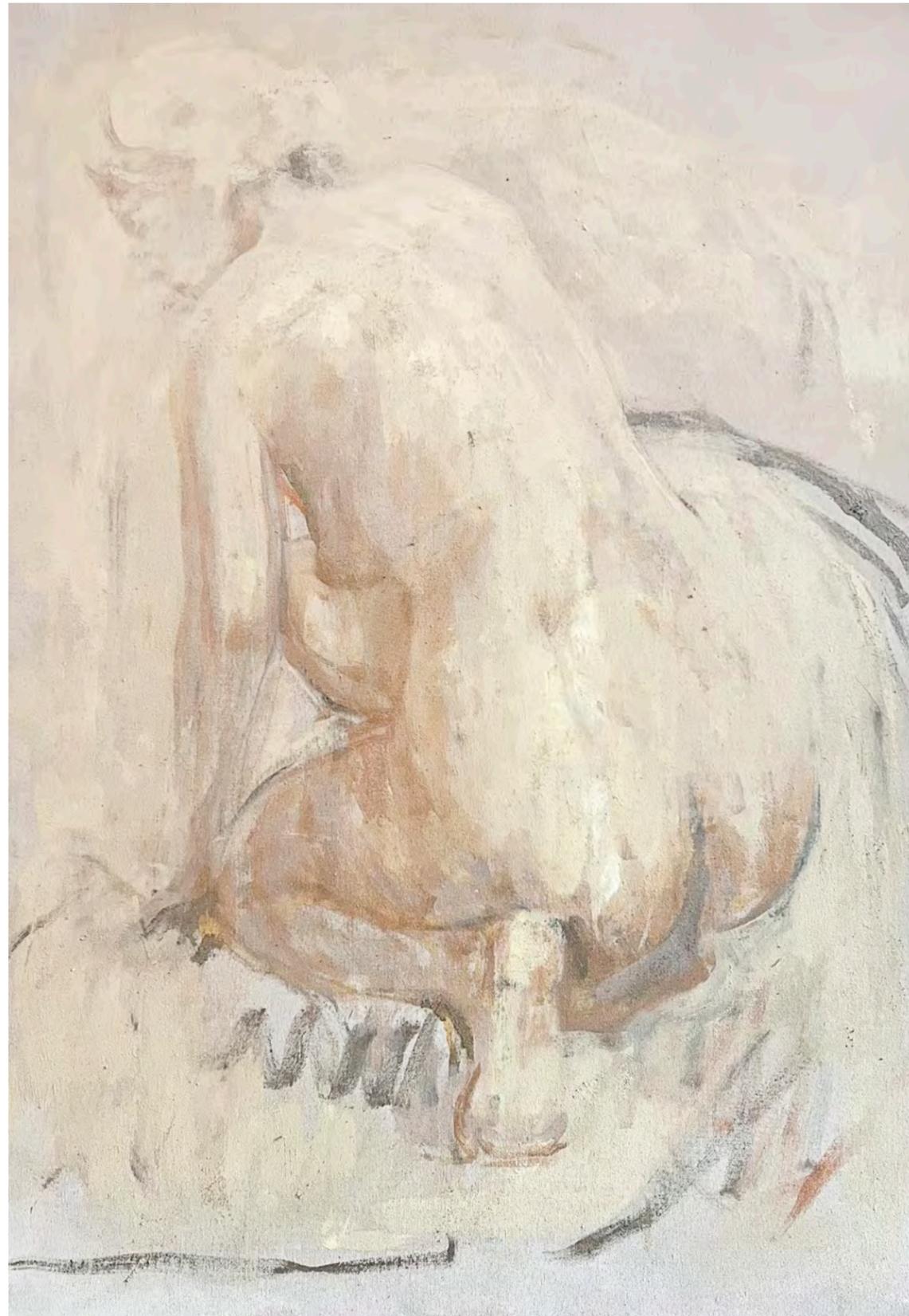


*Series of Earthly Goddesses, 2025*  
Oil on Linen  
100h x 120w cm / 39h x 47w in.

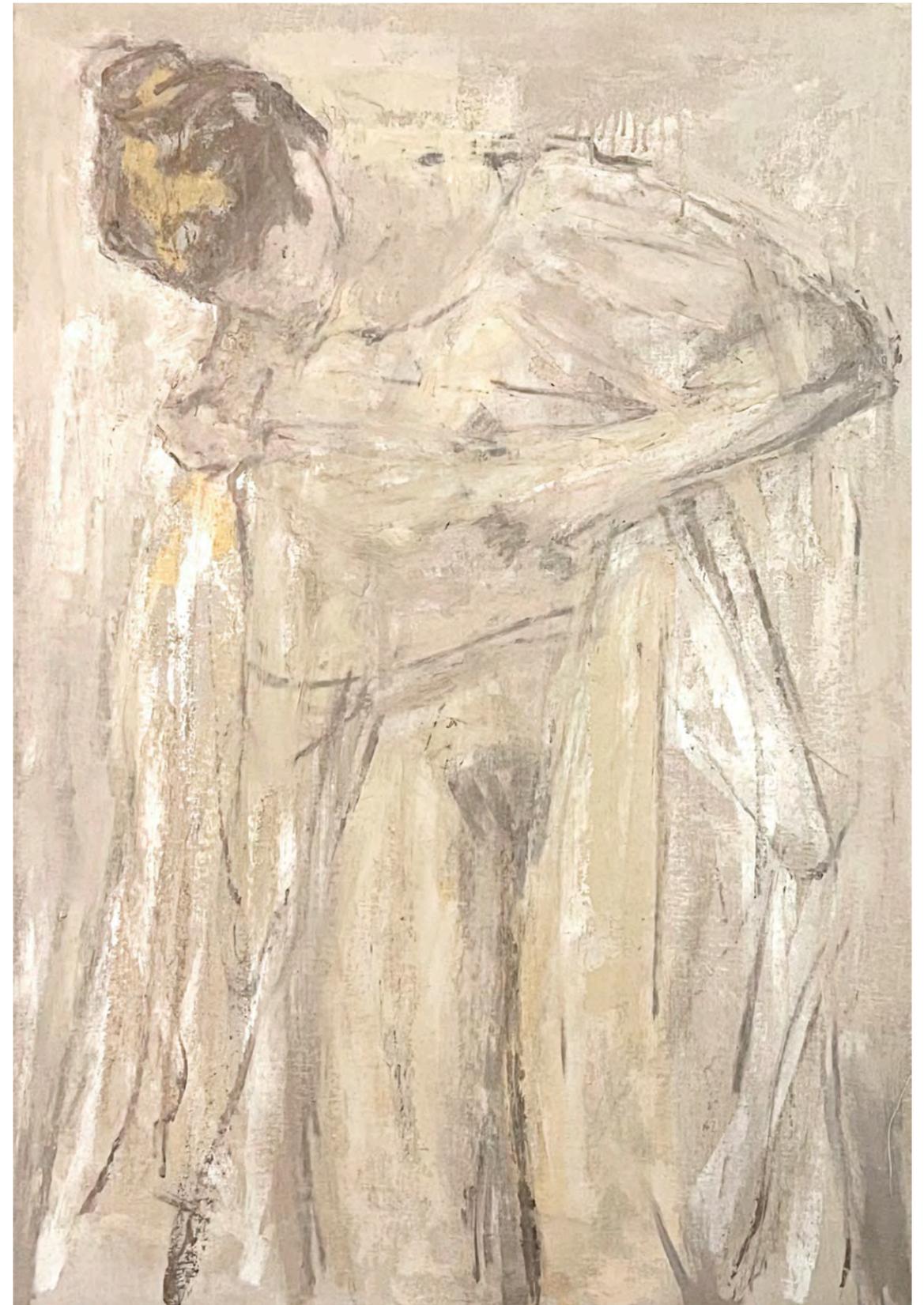




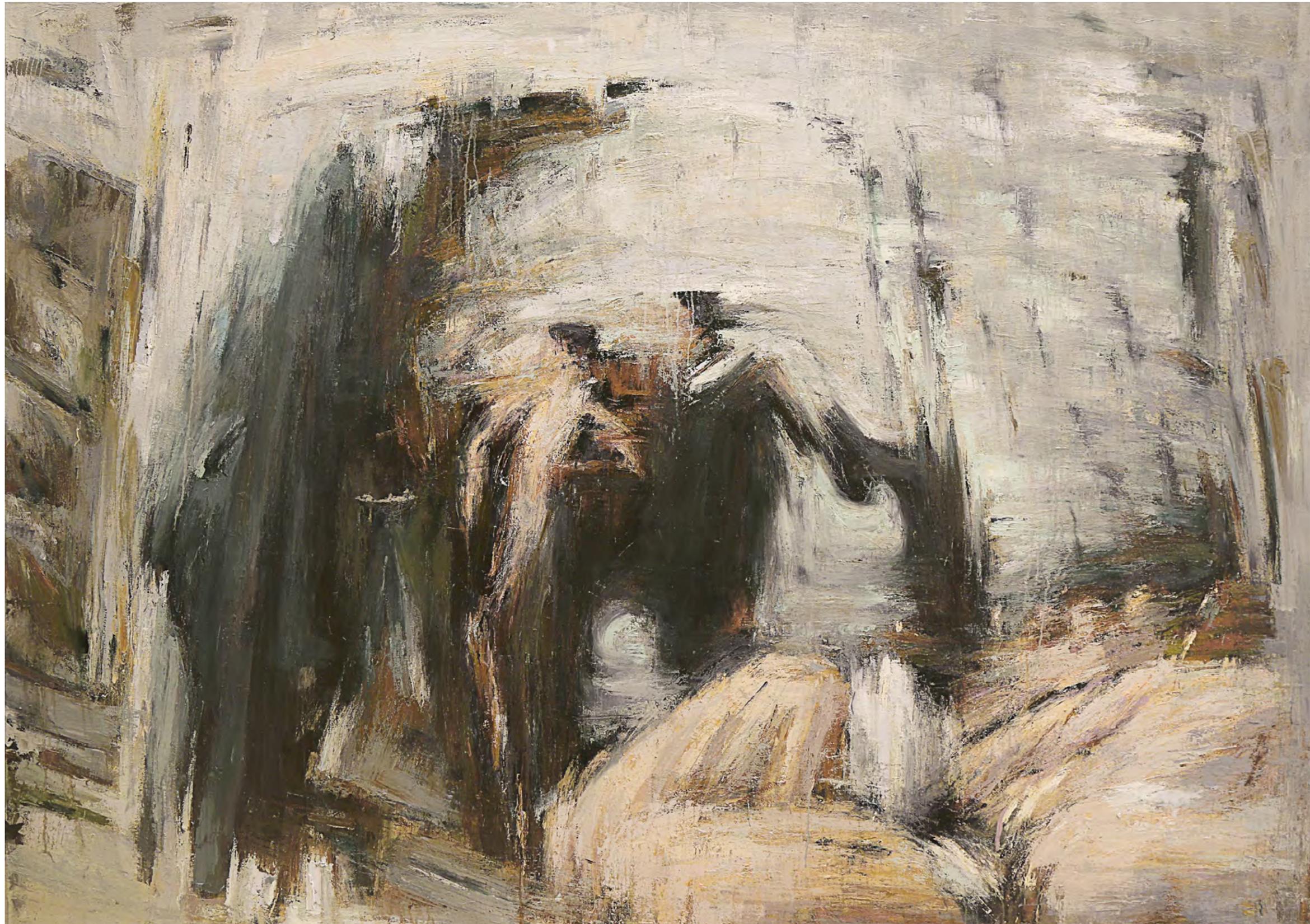
*Series of Noise I In Praise of Pasolini, 2025*  
Oil on Canvas  
130h x 180w cm / 51h x 70w in.



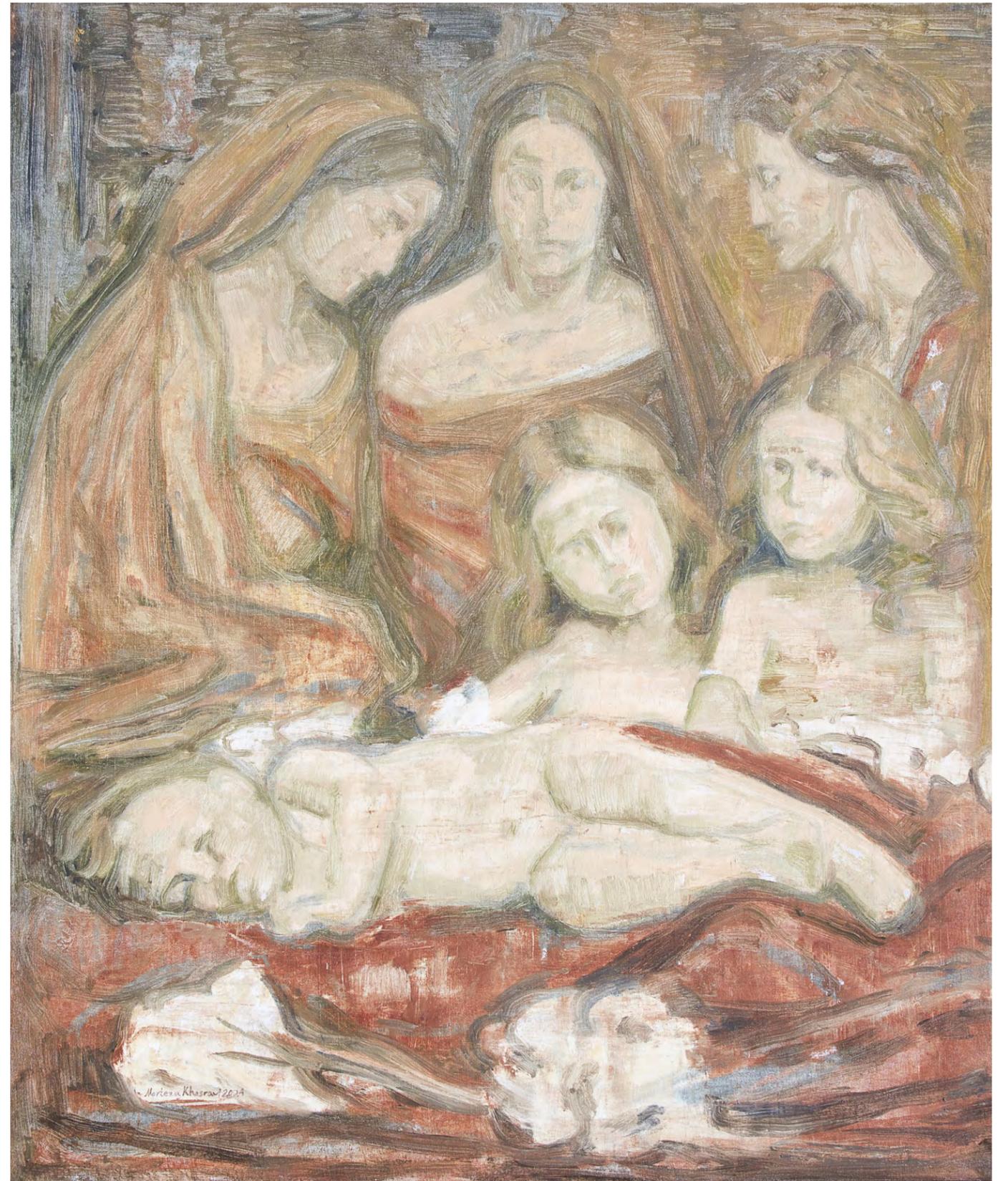
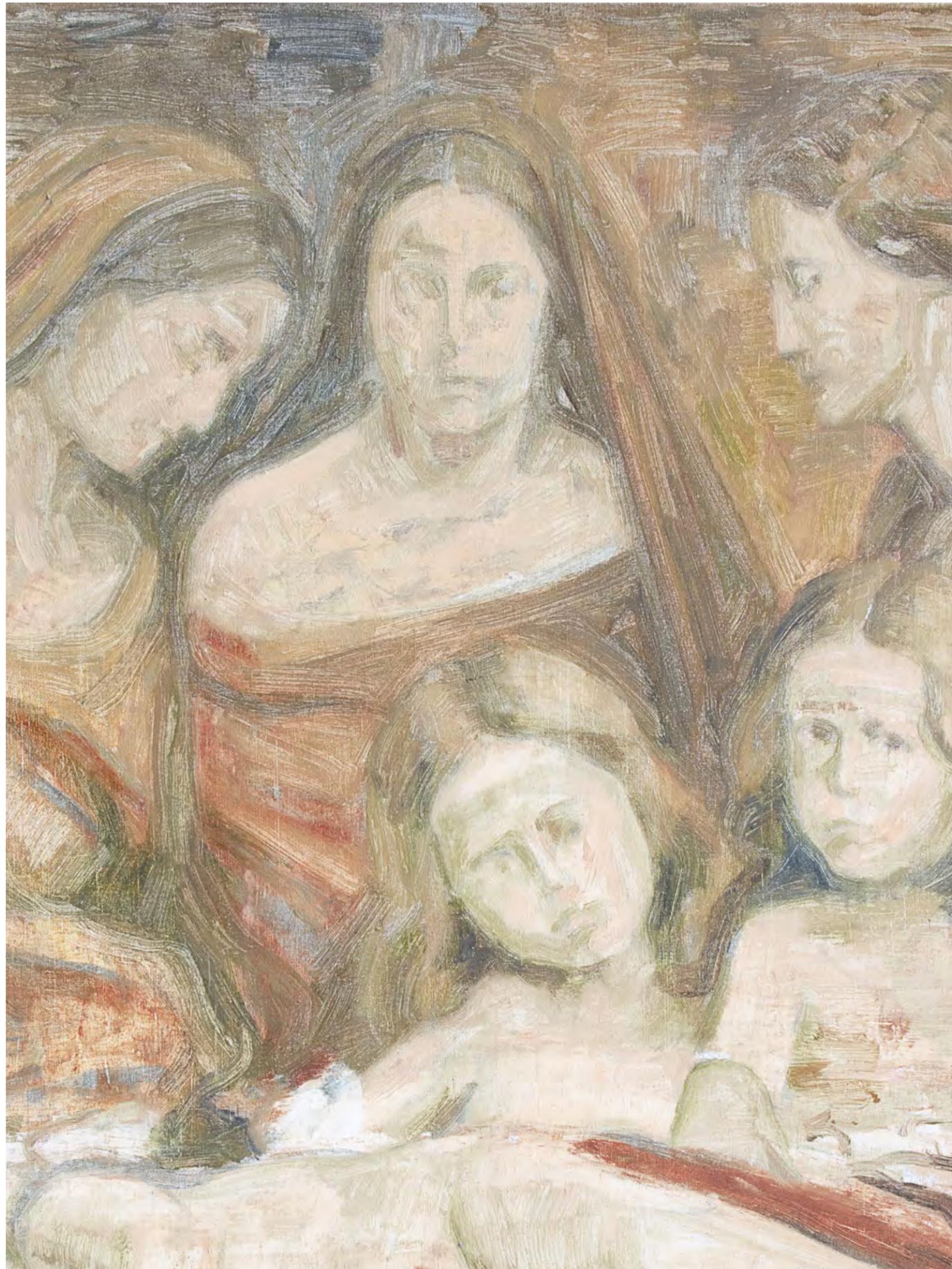
*Series of Earthly Goddesses, 2024*  
Oil on Linen  
100h x 70w cm / 39h x 27w in.



*Series of Earthly Goddess, 2024*  
Oil on Linen  
100h x 70w cm / 39h x 27w in.



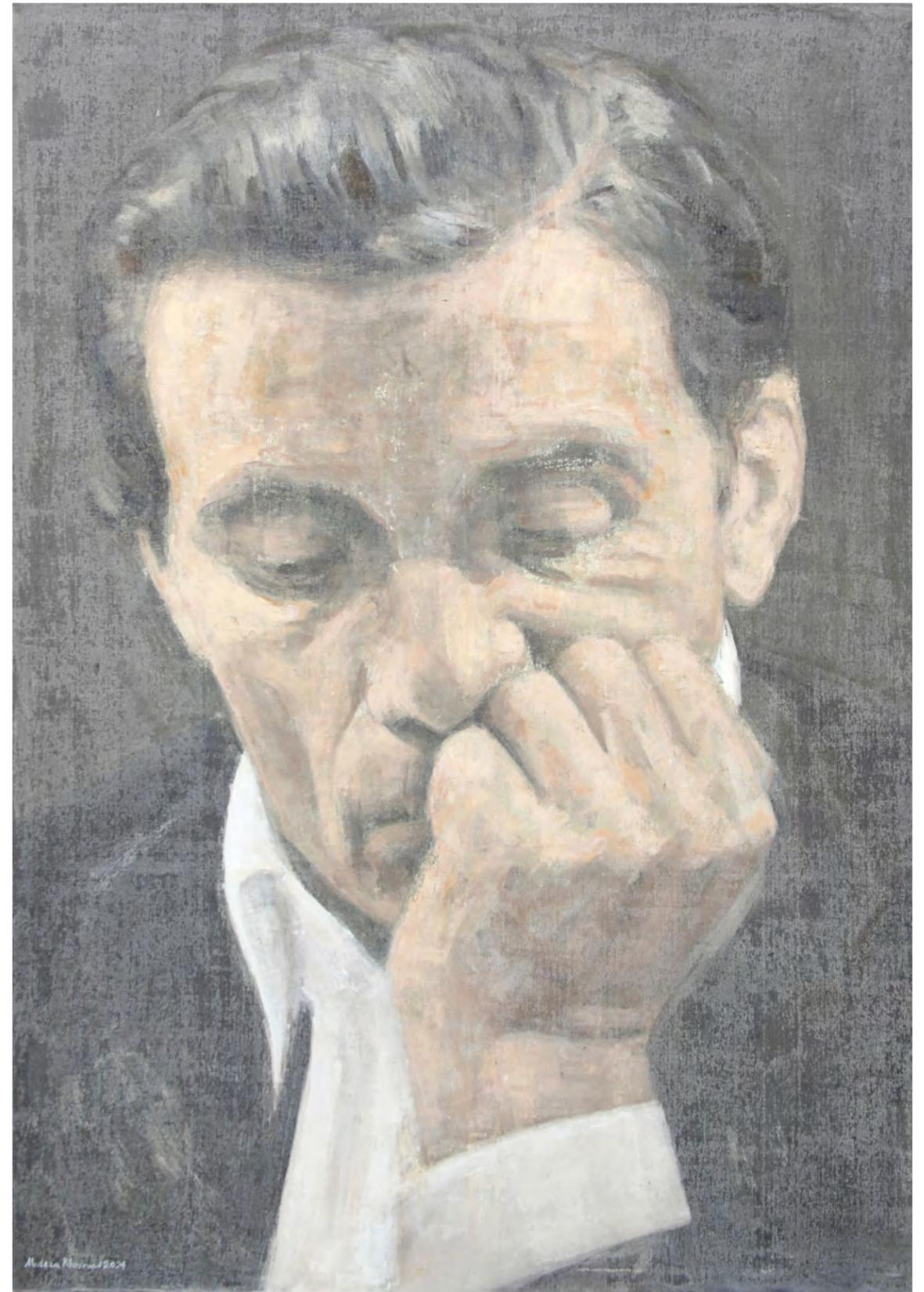
*Series of Noise I In Praise of Pasolini, 2018*  
Oil on Canvas  
180h x 250w cm / 70h x 98w in.



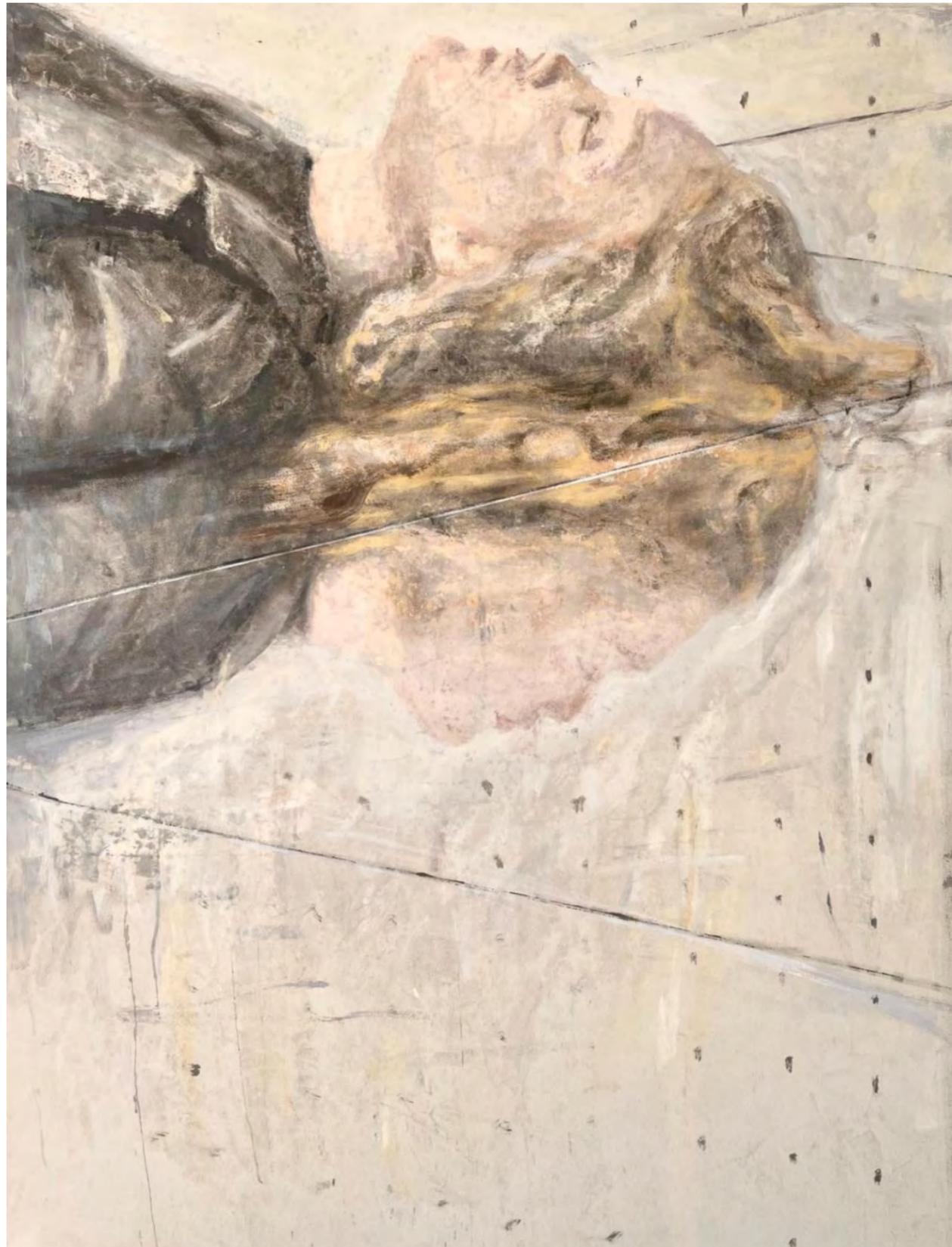
*Series of Memorial Photos, 2024*  
Oil on Canvas  
120h x 100 cm / 47h x 39w in.



*From Series of Memorial Photos, 2024*  
Oil on Canvas  
180h x 130 cm / 70h x 51w in.



*Portrait of Pasolini, 2024*  
Oil on Canvas  
180h x 130w cm / 70h x 51w in.



*Series of The Stroll of Reflections, 2025*  
Oil on Canvas  
200h x 150w cm / 78h x 59w in.

## MORTEZA KHOSRAVI

Morteza Khosravi (b. 1988, Bonjurd, Iran) is a Paris-based multidisciplinary artist whose practice engages with the history of art, approaching painting as a medium in itself rather than a narrative form. He began studying graphic design at the Aref Bojnordi School of Art, earning early recognition in local and national festivals. Trained under masters Gholamhossein Sohrabi and Ali Beigiparast, Khosravi developed a strong foundation in drawing and painting.

He has held numerous solo and group exhibitions in Iran and abroad, including solo shows at Leila Heller Gallery (Dubai), Artlab Gallery (Beirut), Iranshahr and Golestan Galleries (Tehran), and 4rtgallery (France).

His work has also appeared in group exhibitions such as Festival Partage des Arts (France), Galleri Ramfjord (Oslo), Simine Paris (Paris), Contemporary Istanbul (Turkey), and Building Bridges Art Exchange (Los Angeles).

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 The Floating Table, Leila Heller Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2024 4rtgallery, L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue, France
- 2024 d'Angers Gallery, Semnan, Iran
- 2022 Galleri Ramfjord, Oslo, Norway
- 2022 Memorial Photos, Maze Art Group, Tehran, Iran
- 2018 Artlab Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2018 Iranshahr Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2016 Artlab Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2016 Iranshahr Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2015 Golestan Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2014 Artlab Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 DIFC Sculpture Park, Dubai, UAE
- 2025 Festival Partage des Arts, L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue, France
- 2024 Galleri Ramfjord, Oslo, Norway
- 2024 Festival Partage des Arts (sculpture: River Woman), L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue, France
- 2024 Simine Paris, Paris, France
- 2023 Maze Art Group, Contemporary Istanbul, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2023 Simine Paris, Menart Fair, Paris, France
- 2021 Galleri Ramfjord, Oslo, Norway
- 2019 What if Not Exotic? Critical Perspectives in Contemporary Iranian Art, Building Bridges Art Exchange, Los Angeles, USA
- 2018 Iran Less Forty, Palazzo Bastogi Museum, Florence, Italy
- 2018 Immortality, Abahan Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2017 Gallery Mim, Los Angeles, USA
- 2015 Action Art Escape, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2015 Auction No. 23: The Young Collectors Auction, Ayyam Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2015 World Hero, Shirin Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2014 Beirut Art Fair, Beirut, Lebanon