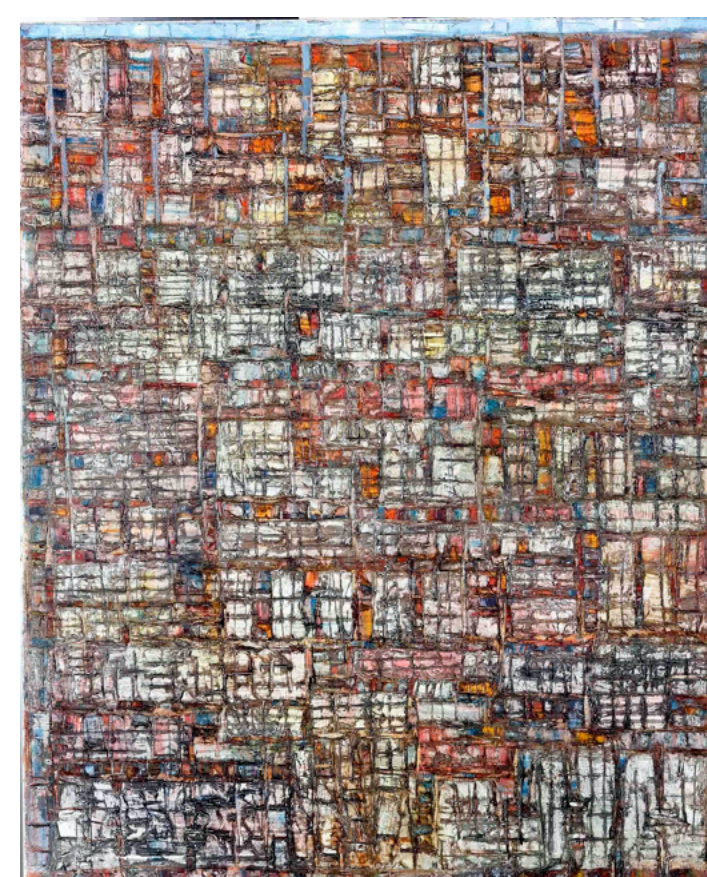
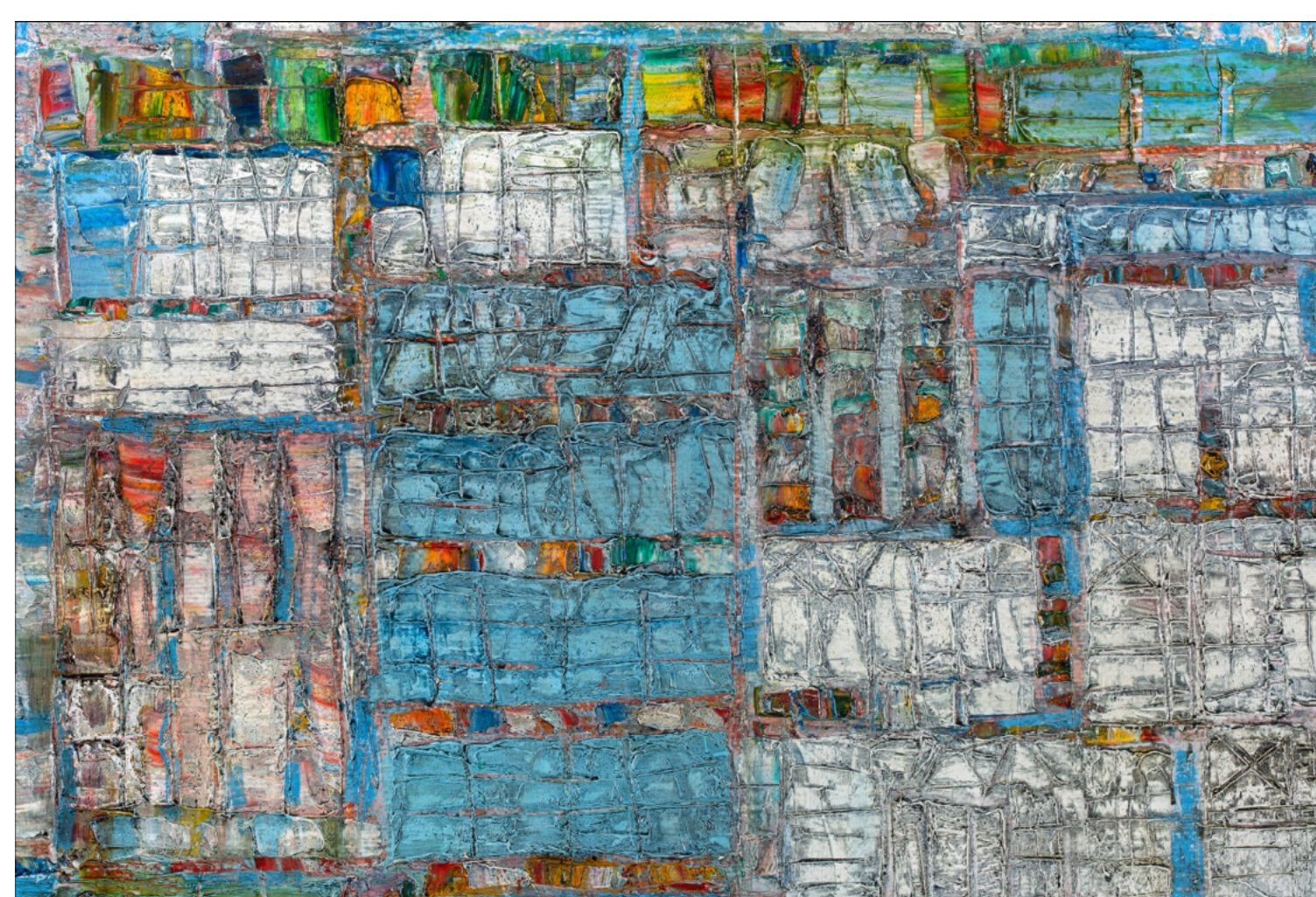


**KATRINE LEVIN**  
GALLERIES



**LEVAN LAGIDZE: PROMISE**

15<sup>th</sup> November – 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021  
PRESS and PRIVATE VIEW 16 November, 6:00 - 9:00pm

**D Contemporary, 23 Grafton Street, Mayfair**  
[www.katrinelevingalleries.com](http://www.katrinelevingalleries.com)

Levan Lagidze is one of Georgia's most significant living artists with work in the permanent collections of major museums including the Tretyakov Gallery and Museum of Modern Art in Russia, the National Picture Gallery in Georgia, and the Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers University in the United States.

*Promise*, presents a series of new works that are inspired by Georgia's landscapes and cityscapes. Outwardly abstract the compositions contain traces of the figurative. Perspective has been flattened and each element within a canvas is given equal importance. Lagidze's aim is not to prioritise, not to ascribe secondary or primary values but to allow every fragment to form part of a universal whole, so that 'the earth is as important as the sky'. This creates a sense of paintings within paintings, as the smaller elements within larger canvases draw the eye and appear to stand alone, creating a Labyrinthian sense of art within artworks.

Following a grid like structure paint is applied thickly using a palette knife creating texture and depth within each canvas and a sense of things buried. Often vibrant his canvases reflect the multicoloured nature of the world, with blocks of colour both in the forefront and somehow concealed. This rhythmic use of line and colour give a harmony across the larger canvases whilst the smaller canvases when exhibited together suggest a mosaic. In addition to works in colour Lagidze has a series of large meditative works that are in muted colours or in shades of the same colour. Highlight works include and abstraction in pales blues and greys "Cities" (oil on canvas, 2021), whilst paintings of seasons *Autumn (2021)*, and *Spring (2021)* suggest through complex palettes the mood associated with each time of year.

As yet little known in the West, Lagidze is acclaimed in Georgia with a room dedicated to his work in the Georgian Museum of Fine Arts. By presenting new work in London, Katrine Levin hopes to give greater recognition to Lagidze.

*'For him painting is a form of gaining a greater awareness ... looking at his paintings, you desire time in quiet contemplation.'*  
Maka Bezhuashvili, Curator, the National Gallery, Georgian National Museum.

**About the Artist**

Born in 1958 in Tbilisi, Georgia (then part of the Soviet Union), Lagidze graduated from Tbilisi State Academy of Arts in 1981. He founded and led an artist's studio at the Tbilisi Artists' House in 1983 and served as Chairman of Georgia's Young Artists' Union from 1986 to 1989. In the early 1990s he supported struggling Georgian artists in the economically turbulent and violent decade following the dissolution of the Soviet Union. His works are collected by museums across Georgia, Russia, other former USSR block countries, and the United States.

**About the Gallery**

Katrine Levin specialises in showing the work of artists from lesser known parts of the world and currently represents artists from Georgia and the Yunnan Province of China. Since establishing the gallery in 2017 Katrine Levin has hosted pop-up galleries in New York and London. She also shows work in her home in London. The Katrine Levin Galleries aims to help artists gain greater recognition, increased access to Western art markets and to enter museum collections. In 2018 a woodblock print by artist Chen Li from the Yunnan Province was acquired by the British Museum.

For further information or images please contact Penny Sychrava PR on E: [penny@pennysychrava.com](mailto:penny@pennysychrava.com) or T: 0796791 5339

For further information about the gallery please contact Katrine Levin E: [katrine@katrinelevin.com](mailto:katrine@katrinelevin.com) or T: +44 7789 001378  
@katrinelevingalleries  
[www.katrinelevin.com](http://www.katrinelevin.com)

