

**Stanley Lewis***Paintings and Works on Paper*

May 12 – July 15, 2022

Opening Reception: Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 6- 8PM

*As a painter, I often look straight down at the grass and say that I am going to paint every blade of grass. How it is done is impossible to understand, but it starts at the micro level.*  
~ Stanley Lewis, 2022



*Backyard with a Wagon, Table and Chair, 2022*, Oil and acrylic on canvas,  
53 3/4 x 65 inches

Betty Cuningham Gallery is pleased to open an exhibition of new work by Stanley Lewis. This will be the artist's fourth show with the Gallery, located at 15 Rivington Street. The artist will be present for an opening reception on Thursday, May 12 from 6-8 PM.

The exhibition is comprised of twelve paintings and four works on paper, all completed recently. Typically, Lewis works and reworks a painting or a drawing for months, if not years, struggling to grasp the details or "the little things." He works on-site, therefore his subjects are wherever he finds himself: Westport, CT where one of his children live, Lovell Lake, NH where they have a cottage, and most particularly, during the past three years, at home in Massachusetts, painting Rhododendrons, clapboards on the house or whatever is in the backyard.

worked on it for thirteen years, leaving it sheltered in his outdoor 'studio' throughout the winter months. His method is complex and requires hours of editing: the canvas is cut and rejoined, piled with layers of paper and canvas, unified by an active painted surface and single image. Lewis' ambitious cut-and-assemble process is also evident in his works on paper. In *View of Our House with Rhododendrons*, the foreground is a tangled net of individual branches, almost in relief, through which peeks a corner of the house.

*Backyard with a Wagon, Table and Chair, 2022* is a major undertaking which Stanley refers to as his "whole life." He

Stanley Lewis was born in Somerville, NJ in 1941. He received a BA from Wesleyan University in 1963 and an MFA from Yale University in 1967 as a Danforth Fellow. Throughout his career, Lewis has held posts as teacher and critic at various institutions including Kansas City Art Institute, Smith College, and American University. In 2005, Lewis received a Guggenheim Fellowship and in 2015 he received an Arts and Letters Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His work can be found in numerous public collections including the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC; National Academy Museum, New York, NY; Hood Museum of Art at Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH; Hollins University Gallery, Roanoke, VA; William Louis-Dreyfus Foundation, Mt. Kisco, NY; the Collections of Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY; and the Watkins Collection at American University, Washington, DC, among others. In 2007, the Katzen Art Center at American University, Washington, DC hosted a retrospective of the artist's work. Lewis lives and works in Leeds, MA.

An illustrated catalogue and online viewing room accompany this exhibition.

*For further information, artist biography and/or images, please contact the gallery.*

**Listing Information:** Betty Cuningham Gallery is located at 15 Rivington Street, b/t Bowery and Chrystie Street, New York, NY 10002

**T:** 212-242-2772 **E:** [info@bettycuninghamgallery.com](mailto:info@bettycuninghamgallery.com) **W:** [www.bettycuninghamgallery.com](http://www.bettycuninghamgallery.com)

**Public Transportation:** F train to Second Ave, 6 Train to Spring Street, JZ Trains to Bowery

**Gallery Hours:** Tues – Sat, 10am – 6pm; **Summer Hours:** Tues – Fri, 10am – 6pm (beginning July 1)