



# Paul Wallington | Purebred

I am interested in the way people create narratives in order to understand history, technology, data and the increasingly complex world around us. Humans create these narrations to make sense of our chaotic past and the ever-changing present. As this complexity is boiled down to a set of linear, straightforward stories they sometimes, as Adam Curtis puts it, become so simplified “that they bear little relationship to the reality outside”.\*

I find a similar process with the breeding of purebred pets, particularly dogs. A process of isolating, splicing, and removing specific genes for the final breed, often resulting in a body that’s at odds with itself. Brittle legs, skulls too small for their brains, noses that cannot breathe. Choosing specific details in an attempt to make a certain kind of animal only makes sense for a few needs, but ultimately the animal is fundamentally flawed.

Yet, no matter how fundamentally flawed the things around us become, we need to continue to splice, isolate, simplify and remove in order to make sense of our world. What can art tell us about here and now? About the individual? About the hysteria of our online world?

As technology allows us to render scenes from these fictional narratives in ever more believable ways, it can be contrasted with figurative painting, a medium that immediately foregrounds the fact that it is not factual but instead a fictional interpretation of reality. This is the starting point for many of my paintings. Instead of painting being redundant, does its built-in subjectivity make it more potent? How does one create a story that is aware of itself as a story? How does one make a painting about this moment in time? What relationship does painting have to the digital image?

Painting takes a world where we are slipping into the metaverse and says to the viewer, without hesitation: ‘this is a lie’.

- Paul Wallington

\*Curtis, Adam, dir. Can’t get you outta my head. 2021. BBC.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xtANhHPXexw>



PAUL WALLINGTON  
*You Did It!*, 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
141 x 141 cm  
R 32,000



PAUL WALLINGTON  
*All Eyes on Me*, 2022  
Oil on Belgian linen  
130 x 163 cm  
R 35,000



PAUL WALLINGTON  
*Influencer Concert, 2022*  
Oil on Canvas  
130 x 110 cm  
R 26,000



PAUL WALLINGTON  
*Give Me Strength*, 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
90 x 80 cm  
R 18,000



PAUL WALLINGTON  
*The Great Pilgrimage*, 2021  
Oil on Canvas  
110 x 130 cm  
R 26,000



PAUL WALLINGTON  
*The End of the World, 2022*  
Oil on Canvas  
90 x 80 cm  
R 18,000



PAUL WALLINGTON  
*The Mistake*, 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
140 x 140 cm  
R 32,000



PAUL WALLINGTON  
*We Are Going to Save the Planet* 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
100 x 120 cm  
R 24,000



PAUL WALLINGTON  
*Out of Control*, 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
110 x 130 cm  
R 26,000



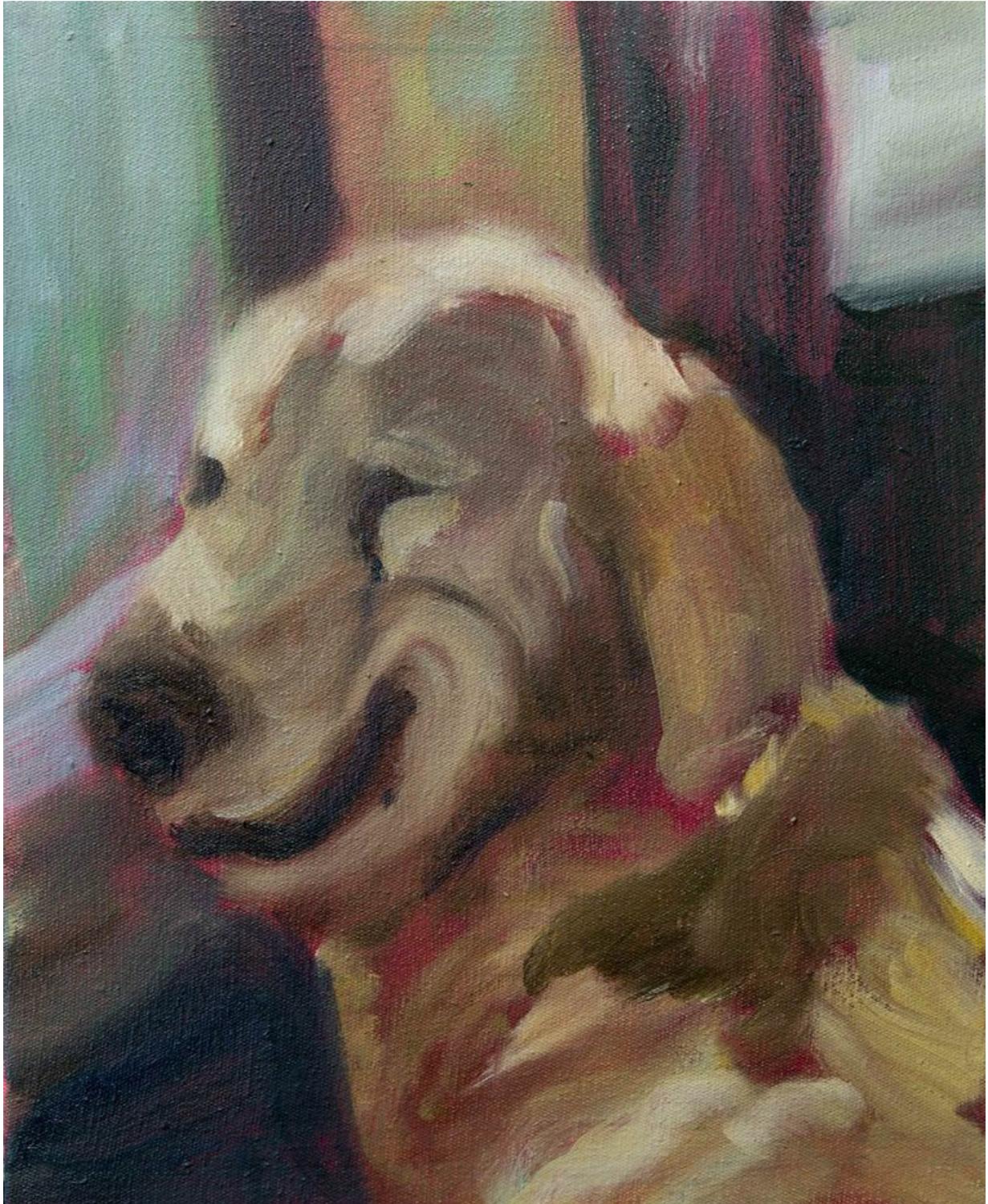
PAUL WALLINGTON  
*Inner Peace*, 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
100 x 120 cm  
R 24,000



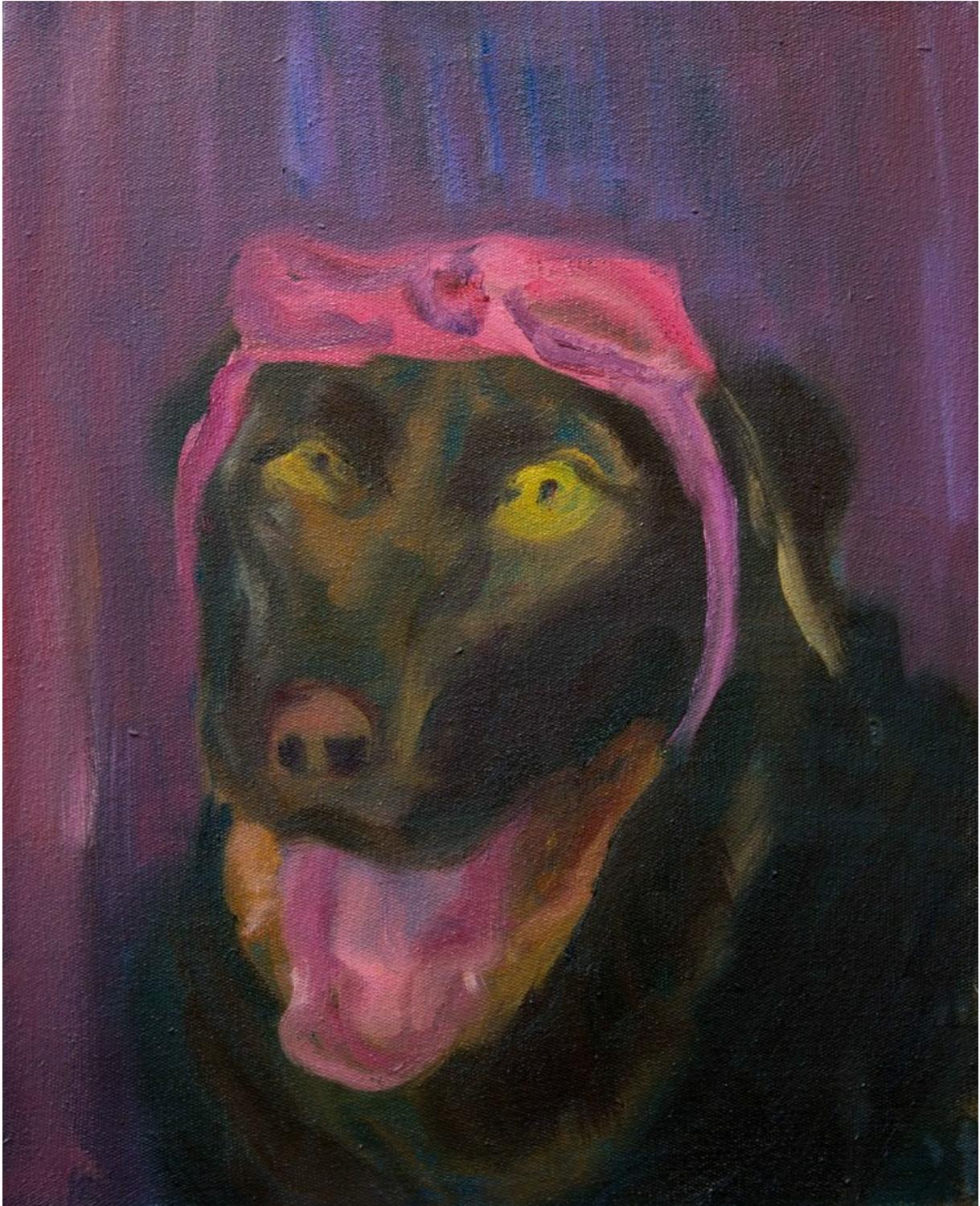
PAUL WALLINGTON  
*Modern Sabbath, 2022*  
Oil on Belgian linen  
130 x 174 cm  
R 35,000



PAUL WALLINGTON  
*The Story*, 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
90 x 80 cm  
R 18,000



PAUL WALLINGTON  
*Squished*, 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
35 x 28 cm  
R 6,000



PAUL WALLINGTON  
*Terminal*, 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
35 x 28 cm  
R 6,000



PAUL WALLINGTON

*Dinner Time*, 2022

Oil on Canvas

44 x 32 cm

R 6,000