

# FOSTER/WHITE GALLERY

JACOB FEIGE

*Artist Statement*

Through my recent paintings I ask the question of what authentic personhood is in a society that gives increasing agency to machines and software simulating human thought. I follow a template to render human likeness, stripped of clear identity, that draws equally on Byzantine icons and Modernist portraiture. My paintings hold the erasure of the individual and the ideal of the universal in deliberate tension. A casting method, in which acrylic is peeled from a carved plaster mold, places the process of the work between painting, sculpture, and relief printing. The resulting acrylic cast is a tactile surface whose geometric cutaways reveal a canvas below, depicting a barren landscape or a second face. Many paintings are double-sided, freestanding works over a brass armature in a wooden base, allowing the viewer to walk around (or physically turn) the work. In each, stair and scaffolding patterns suggest an architectural scale, a monumental human inhabited by numerous selves and others.

Feige 2026 Artist Stmt