



**ALEX KATZ (b. 1927)****Peter**

Signed and dated, upper right, "Alex Katz 95"

oil on masonite board

15 7/8 x 7 1/8 in. (18 7/8 x 10 1/4 x 1 1/2 in.)

40.32 x 20 cm (47.94 x 26.04 x 3.81 cm)

1995

45889

**PROVENANCE:**

Collection of the Artist

Private Collection, Los Angeles

**EXHIBITION:**

Andover, Massachusetts, Addison Gallery of American Art, *Alex Katz: Small Paintings*, April 7 - July 22, 2001 then traveled to: New York, Whitney Museum of American Art at Philip Morris, September 21, 2001 - January 4, 2002; Kansas City, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, March 22 - June 2, 2002

**LITERATURE:**

Adam Weinberg, Dana Self, Shamim M. Momin, and Eric de Chassy, *Alex Katz: Small Paintings*, Kansas City, MO, 2001, p. 15 (illustrated p. 85)

Born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1927, Alex Katz is an American figural artist associated with the Pop art movement. He studied at The Cooper Union Art School in New York and the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine. In 1994, The Cooper Union endowed the Alex Katz Visiting Chair in Painting, and in 2000, honored the artist with its "Artist of the City" award. The Cooper Union endowment was funded through the sale of ten of his paintings, donated by the artist.

Katz's work has been the subject of nearly 200 solo exhibitions internationally since 1954. In 1974 The Whitney Museum of American Art showed Alex Katz Prints, followed by a traveling retrospective exhibition Alex Katz in 1986. Known, in particular, for his paintings, sculptures and prints, his works seem simple, but according to Katz they are more reductive, which is fitting to his personality. During his first ten years as a painter he admitted to destroying a thousand paintings, but since the 1950's he has worked to create art more "freely", trying to paint "faster than he can think."

His paintings are full of exquisite, painterly passages and are not as manicured as they appear at first glance. Inspired by the American Impressionists and the Pop artists of the 1950's, such as Pollock and Close, he later distinguished himself from his avant-garde contemporaries by focusing purely on representational art, rendering figures in vibrant planes of flat color. In subject and style his worked has changed little over the years having arrived early at his signature blending of figure, landscape and abstraction.

Although being shown numerous times across America and Internationally, it has only

been in the last decade that Alex Katz's art has gained world wide acceptance and it is now considered influential on much younger generations of artists with his iconic figurative work. At the age of 80, Katz broke out of his minimal frame in small art circles and is currently seen as a major American painter.

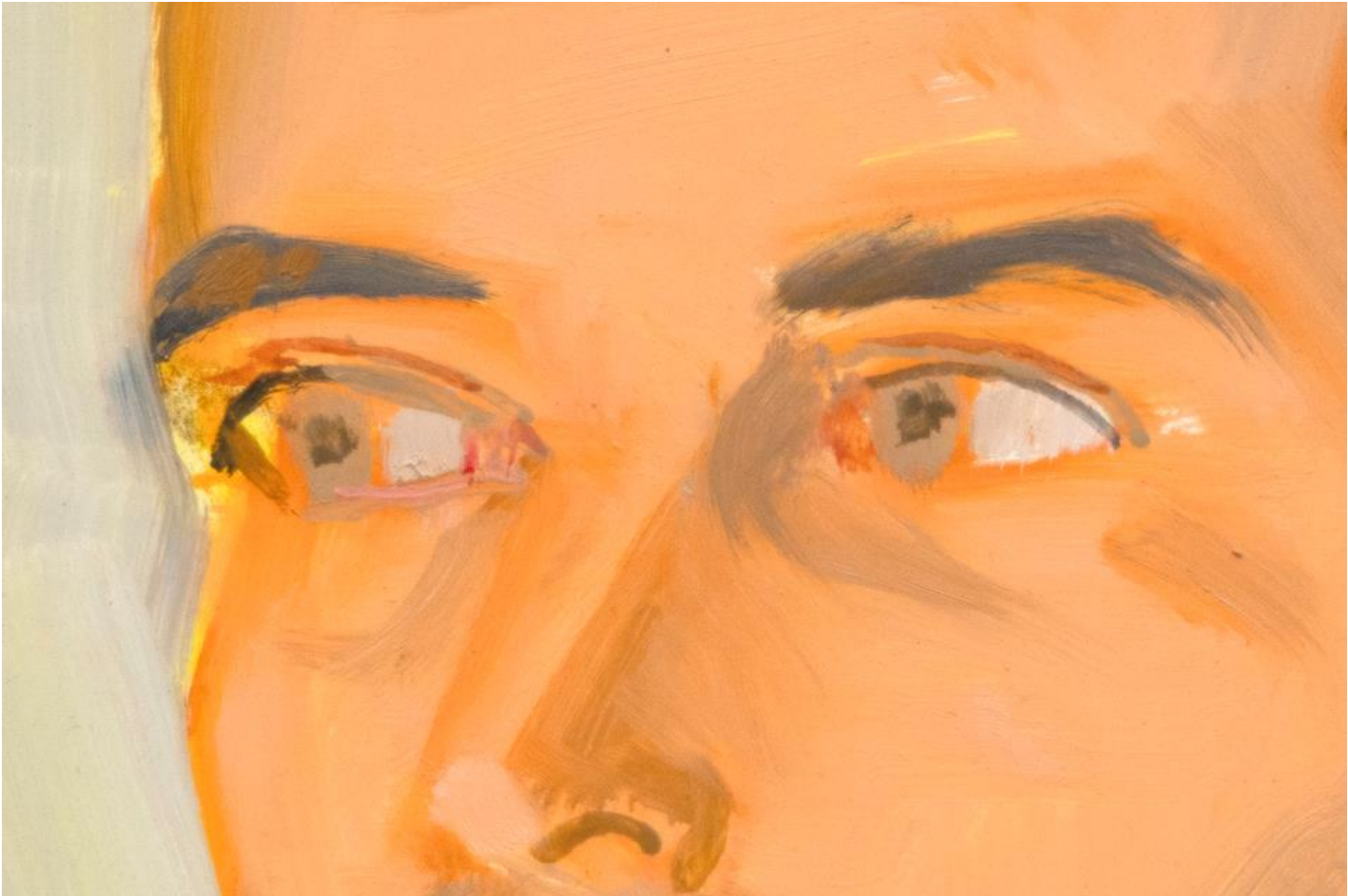
Best known for his emotionally ambivalent and psychologically complex portraits of cosmopolitan friends in New York, he is also revered for his bold, transcendent landscape paintings and his coolly intimate portrait of friends and family – oftentimes painted in Maine, where Katz summered. The Maine paintings capture relaxing, off moments and changes in light.

His works are held in the collections of the Tate Modern and the Museum of Modern Art.

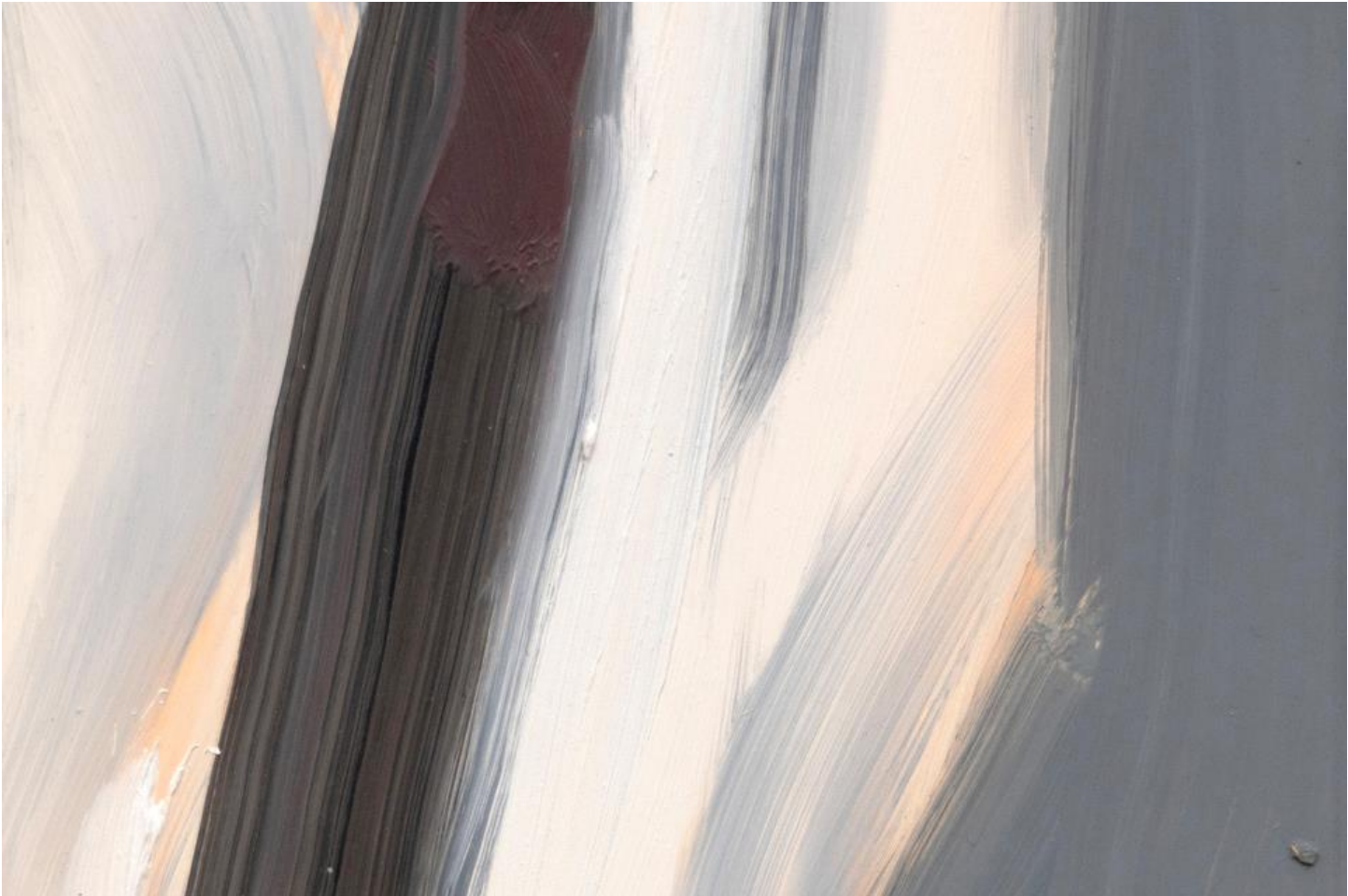
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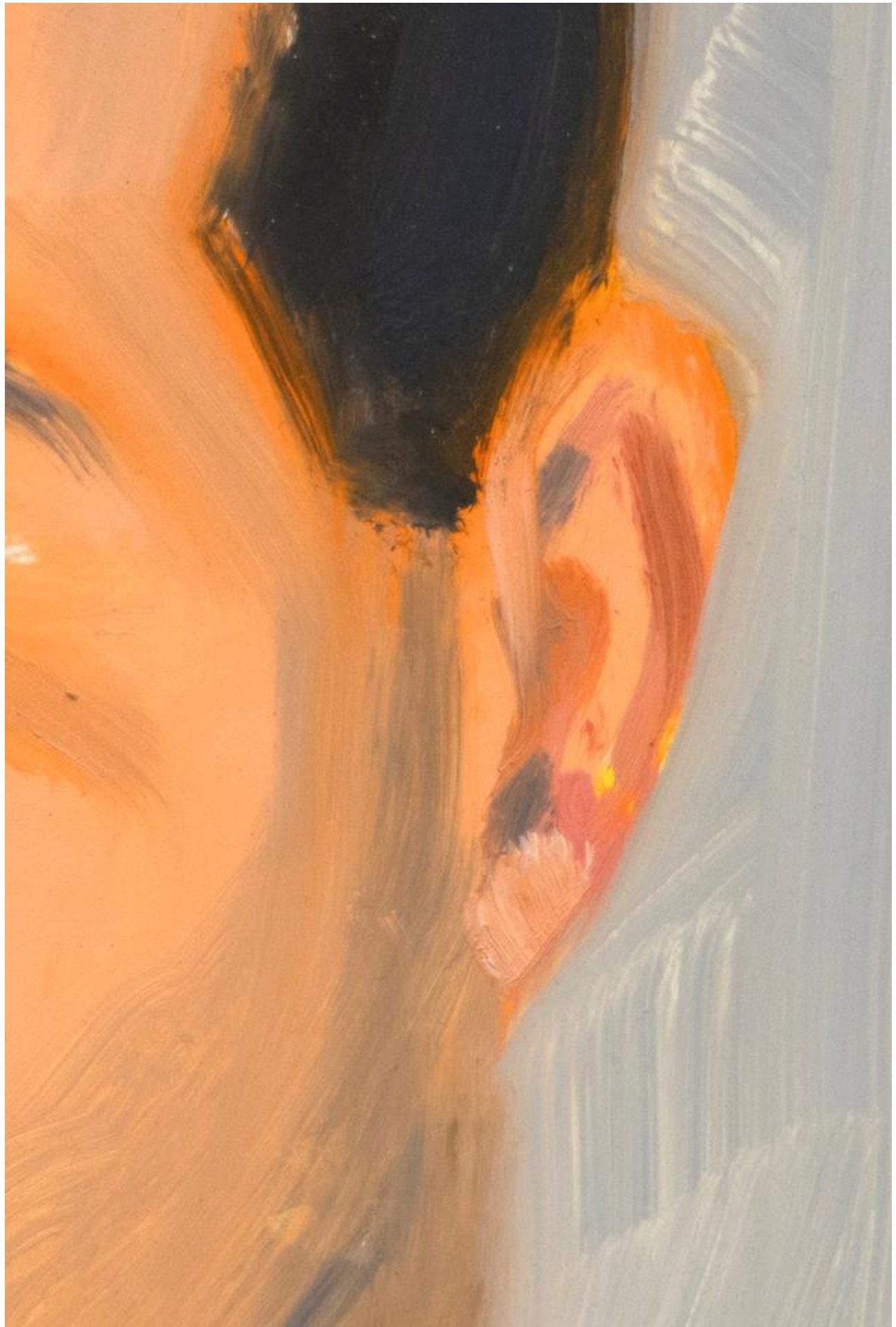
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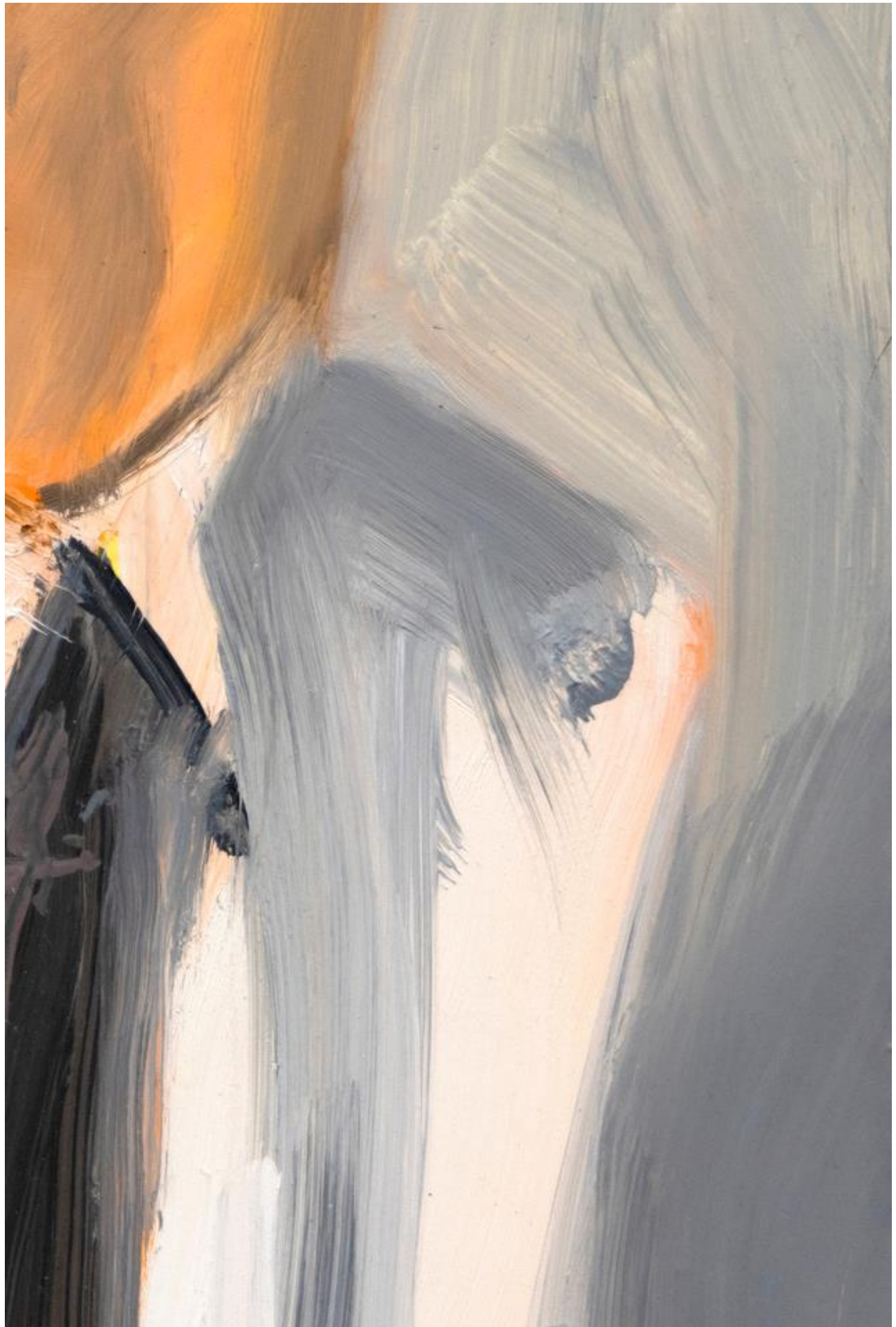














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**Alex Katz: Small Paintings**  
**Alex Katz**  
**Peter, 1995**  
**oil on masonite board**  
**16 x 7"**  
**Collection of the artist**  
**ID # 56**  
  
Addison Gallery of American Art, Andover  
April 7, 2001 - July 22, 2001  
  
Whitney Museum of American Art  
Whitney Museum of American Art at Philip Morris, New York  
Sept. 21, 2001 - Jan. 4, 2002  
  
Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City  
March 22, 2002 - June 2, 2002

**PACE WILDENSTEIN**  
32 EAST 57TH STREET NEW YORK NEW YORK 10022 212-421-3292  
**Alex Katz** # 33424  
**Peter 1995**  
**oil paint on board**  
**16 x 7"**

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