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Mathieu Cherkit, **Big Bang**, Oil on canvas, 200 x 380 cm.

Courtesy Galerie Jean Brolly, Paris.

MATHIEU CHERKIT

Galerie Jean Brolly

Through February 15, 2014

Beware of appearances. Those offered by Mathieu Cherkit are misleading. The 31-year-old painter, exposed at the Montrouge Salon 2010, paints the townhouse of his ancestors, that he occupies, every day. The living room, kitchen, bedroom, garden ... no part of this stone building from the late 19th century escapes his brush. The style is naïve, the repetitive subject, and yet ... Yet the more we look at the paintings, the more they escape the eye: the balance becomes precarious, and the anecdote a pretext for painting. There is the labor of a Vermeer and the concentration of a Hucleux in Cherkit's work, and something of a program that brings him closer to an Opalka. For his second exhibition at Jean Brolly, the painter pushes a little more nail. Magnificent. F. S.