

## Artist Statement

Shane Campbell has been living and working in New York since graduating from the Yale MFA program in 2007. He synthesizes traditional components of painting with contemporary ideas. Campbell's images portray key themes of modern society's pleasures but also dissonance. For example, clowns, parades and their contrasting seedy backdrops, elicit unease between mystery and the jovial. As in 'Red Clown' from 2006 the viewer is introduced to the story after a climactic event, the question arises in the formal clues. Why has the clown fallen in the shadows as the procession fades into the distance? In contrast to the iconic clown surrounded by comedy and amusement, Campbell's clown stands as a paradox. Taking this dark subject matter the artist visually balances these themes with a lively palette and brushstrokes.