

# ATTEMPTED REPAIRS.

PAGE N. PILAND

PAINTING & ILLUSTRATING  
LIFE ON TEXAS.

“I SEE THINGS SO  
BEAUTIFUL, OR DEVASTATING,  
THAT NO ONE WOULD BELIEVE  
A PAINTING OF THEM... SO I  
INCLUDE THE THING IN THE  
WORK AS PROOF.”









“I ALWAYS HOPED  
TO GET TO THAT  
PLACE WHERE I CANNOT  
UNDERSTAND OR  
EXPLAIN WHAT I  
AM DOING... OR WHY.  
I MAY BE CLOSE.”





**W**orking in the Old First Ward neighborhood of the 1824 Spring Street Studio in Houston was a great experience. My first studio space in 2011 was upstairs in #213. Later, I moved to a larger space downstairs (#112) with a two-story roll-up door. Still later, I moved back upstairs, first to #210, and then back to #213. At last, I moved into #109 which is the a space I had always hoped to be in. I moved out of Spring Street during the COVID pandemic in December 2020. The paintings were moved to a climate-controlled storage unit. I "tongue-in-cheek" staged a "First Annual Going Out of Business Sale". (Inspired by Houston ad man, Bruce Henry Davis, who hosted an annual going-out-of-business sale and party for over 20 years.) It was a great success, allowing me to make up revenue lost as a result of the pandemic. I regretfully sold some of my favorites including the two 72-inch cello works. But they went to a faithful collector of my work, so I'm thankful they're safe.

When driving to the studio, I used to cut through from Washington Avenue on Silver Street all the way to the studio on Spring Street. About a half block north of Washington sat an old warehouse complex that appeared to be an old-time car repair/junk yard shop. Over the years it deteriorated, and finally was torn down with the remnants abandoned. For about a year, I watched as the blue planks sat in the sun and rain. When satisfied they were set in their color and done aging, I moved quickly to haul off the very best examples. 2x12 inch and 1x12 inch planks originally painted dark blue had faded to light robin's-egg blue with grains showing through in tones of gray. I used the planks in several works. One of my favorites is the 130" x 48" *Silver Street Warehouse Remnants II. A Portrait*. It reminded me of a historic vase or vessel. The wooden plank and painting is presented exactly as I found the plank.



*I was so very cool in those days as shown in this photo. The accepted costume of that era was dark blue, not light blue, jeans with a dark blue or black jacket and tie. And the artist must not smile while always looking serious and troubled, yet... serene. I got it down pretty good!*

*Silver Street Warehouse Remnants II. A Portrait.*  
130" x 48". 2016.

- Mixed media: Oil on canvas with actual wooden pine plank inset flush with the surface of the painting.
- The plank was found in Houston near Piland's studio on Silver Street.
- In Piland collection in 2021 and located in Piland home or storage in Bellaire, TX.
- Exhibited in Piland's Spring Street Studio and the curated Exhibition by Clint Wilour in Silver Street Studio in 2016 and shown in the Galveston Art Center Exhibition curated by Dennis Nance in 2017.
- Excellent condition in 2021. • Piland C.R. book - *29 Floors* discusses the works.
- See photo of work in the C.R. book - *29 Floors*. Written by the artist in Bellaire, Texas. 2021.
- Signed by the artist on the back of the canvas and the stretcher bars.













WHEN ACTUALLY  
WORKING ON A  
PROJECT, THE ARTIST  
MAY ACTUALLY  
BE CRAZY.



