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Celeste Rapone, *Sideline* (after Ben Shahn), 2025. Oil on Canvas; 72 × 90 in (182.9 × 228.6 cm). Courtesy of the artist.

Multimedia material:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/dyrjsgp207jvnadt74ajl/AIJ8LGU0s6NrIQBNwhru0MU?rlkey=q9y2auid59uz9bawymb1ajsyc&st=eequyac0&dl=0>

MCA Chicago announces *Atrium Project: Celeste Rapone*

CHICAGO—The Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (MCA) is excited to announce the latest installation in its [Atrium Project](#) series, featuring the work of artist Celeste Rapone (b. 1985, Glen Ridge, New Jersey; lives and works in Chicago, IL). Centering intimacy and nostalgia, as well as the anxieties of the contemporary world, Rapone paints figures to become both actors and scenery. Her paintings, known for purposefully flat and compressed compositions, embody and embrace the mundanity of daily life, particularly as experienced by women either in the home, in social settings, or out in the world.

Rapone's Atrium Project is open until June 20, 2027 and will feature her 2025 painting *Sideline* (After Ben Shahn). The artwork revisits a 1940 painting titled *Men on a Bench* by Lithuanian-

American social realist painter Ben Shahn, an artist who focused on labor and immigrant experiences during the Great Depression.

ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART CHICAGO

The Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. The MCA interweaves exhibitions, performances, collections, and educational programs while providing a place for audiences to contemplate and discuss contemporary art in pursuit of a creative and diverse future. The MCA believes in the values of inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA) as a platform to enact structural change. The museum is generously supported by its Board of Trustees; individual and corporate members; private and corporate foundations, including the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation; and government agencies. The MCA is a proud member of Museums in the Park and receives major support from the Chicago Park District.

The MCA is located at 220 E. Chicago Avenue is open 10 am to 5 pm Wednesday to Sunday and Tuesdays from 10 am to 9 pm. Tuesday evenings (5-9 pm) are free for Illinois residents. The museum is closed on Mondays. Admission is free for all youth 18 and under, members of the military and veterans, and MCA members. Free admission for anyone 18 and under is generously provided by the Lefkowsky Free 18 & Under Fund. Find more information about MCA's exhibitions, programs, and special events at mcachicago.org or [312.280.2660](tel:3122802660).



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