

3-24-1980

The President's Choice new paintings and prints by Arnoldi Ups and Downs

The Visual Arts Gallery at Florida International University Frost Art Museum
The Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum

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3-4/1980

The President's Choice
new paintings and prints by

ANDERSON

UPS AND DOWNS

ARCHIVES

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ARNOLD

UPS AND DOWNS

Visual Arts Gallery
Florida International University
Miami, Florida

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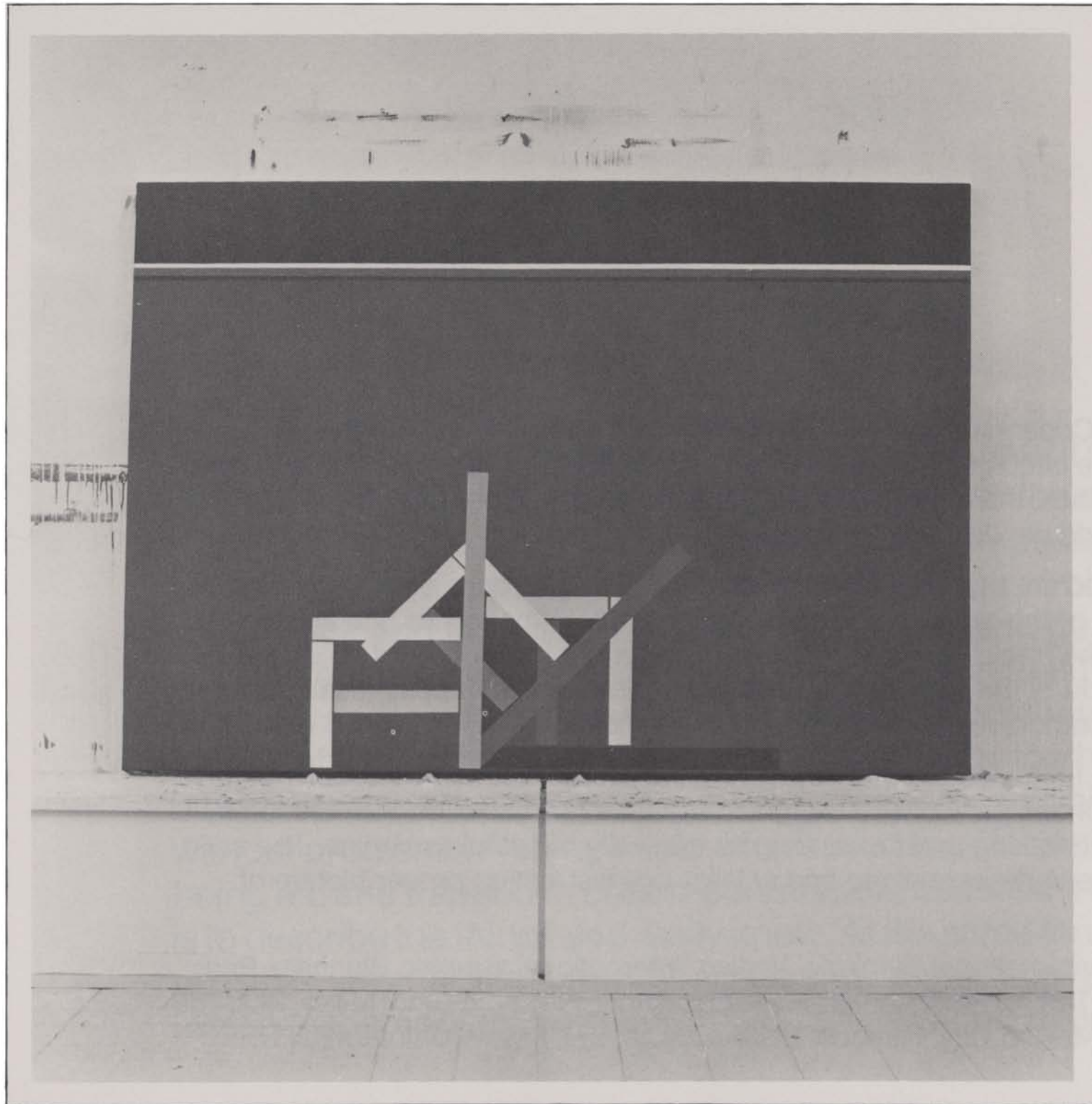
“...I state: The world looks like this. Fine and flat. I say it's clean, the colours pure. I also maintain it easy to dig. I claim that just as the colours are pure the water is clean the air and the rainbow is pure with pure, clean colours, the sunset visible. I say that things are as simple as this primitive bowler hat and candy stick and big fat ball. I claim and hope the stage setting is perfectly illuminated and throws the right shadows. I claim that the shadows are as beautiful as the things throwing. In short I say that the system, which in this picture of a perfect successful juggle act makes the top hats and the bottom balls balance without pressing or exhausting or tumbling — is a system without problems. A shiny world. I have tried to paint an idyll because of my being a Dane trapped in cream-country and because the only way to work is to describe the things you really know. At the same time I find this the only possible way of elaborating, explaining, dissecting and analysing this blessed fat smooth horrible situation so easy and difficult to live in. . . .”

Per Arnoldi, born in Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1941, deals with imagery of the familiar. His stylized props of the circus world and the theater are painted in pure clear colors—the bowler hat, the candy stick, the ball, the ladder, the rainbow are presented with humor and joy—the “on stage” world we delight in seeing.

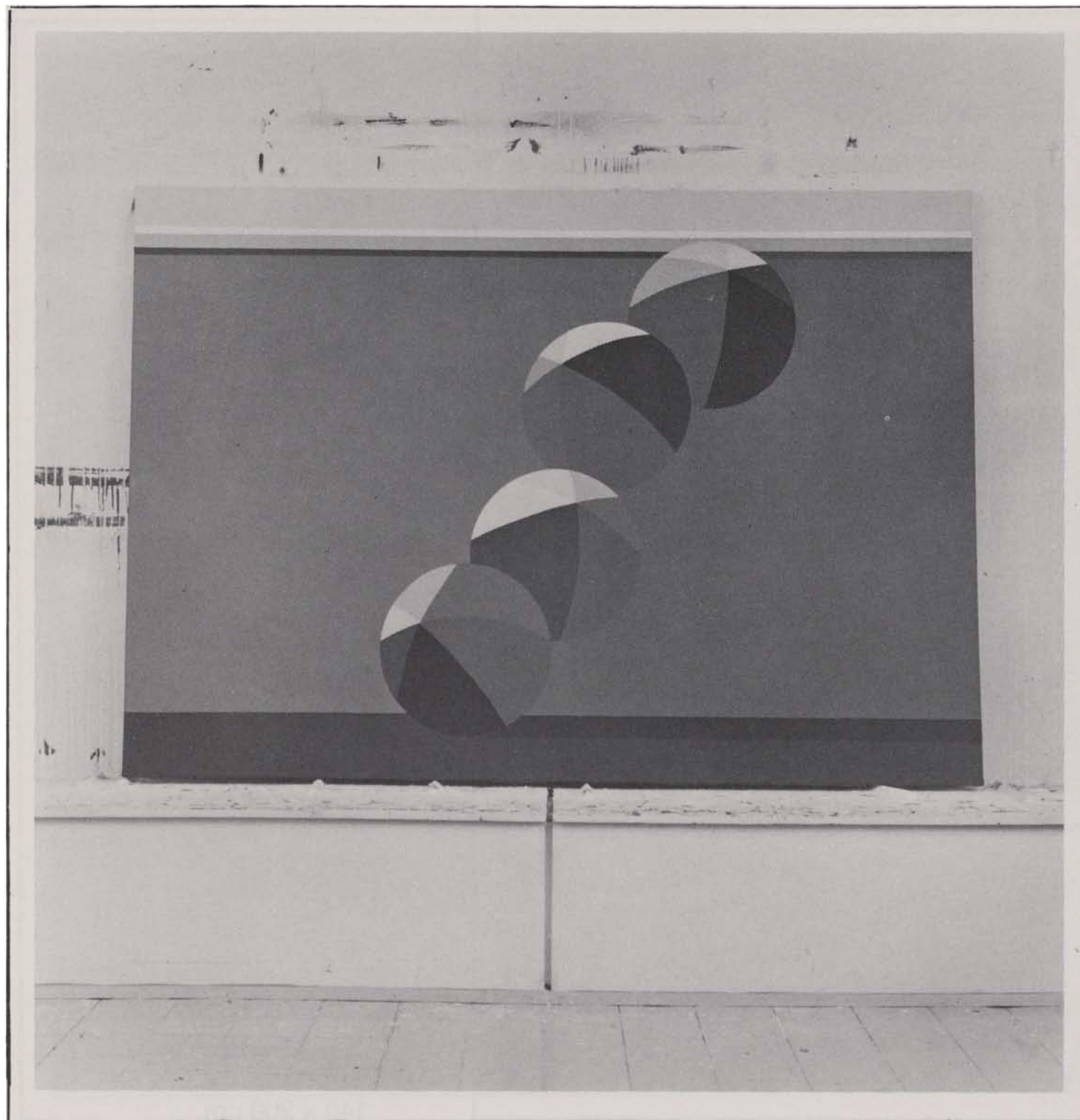
In 1978, Arnoldi added another dimension to his art, painting a series on the strange and dramatic life and death of the great aerialist Karl Wallenda. With that series, the artist reminds the viewer of the tragic as well as the joyous nature of the world. Yet he continues to paint the “shiny” world of the circus and theater—the illusions we happily recall from childhood—devoid of pathos, replete with joy and excitement.

Arnoldi feels that the influence of art is “important and irresistible. “. . . one does not have to be an artist or a prophetic genius to realise that our world is chaotic, confused, morally cracking and probably breaking apart or sinking as tragically beautiful as Venice. The artist tries on behalf of everyone desperately to find at least one last lasting proper picture of some quality.”

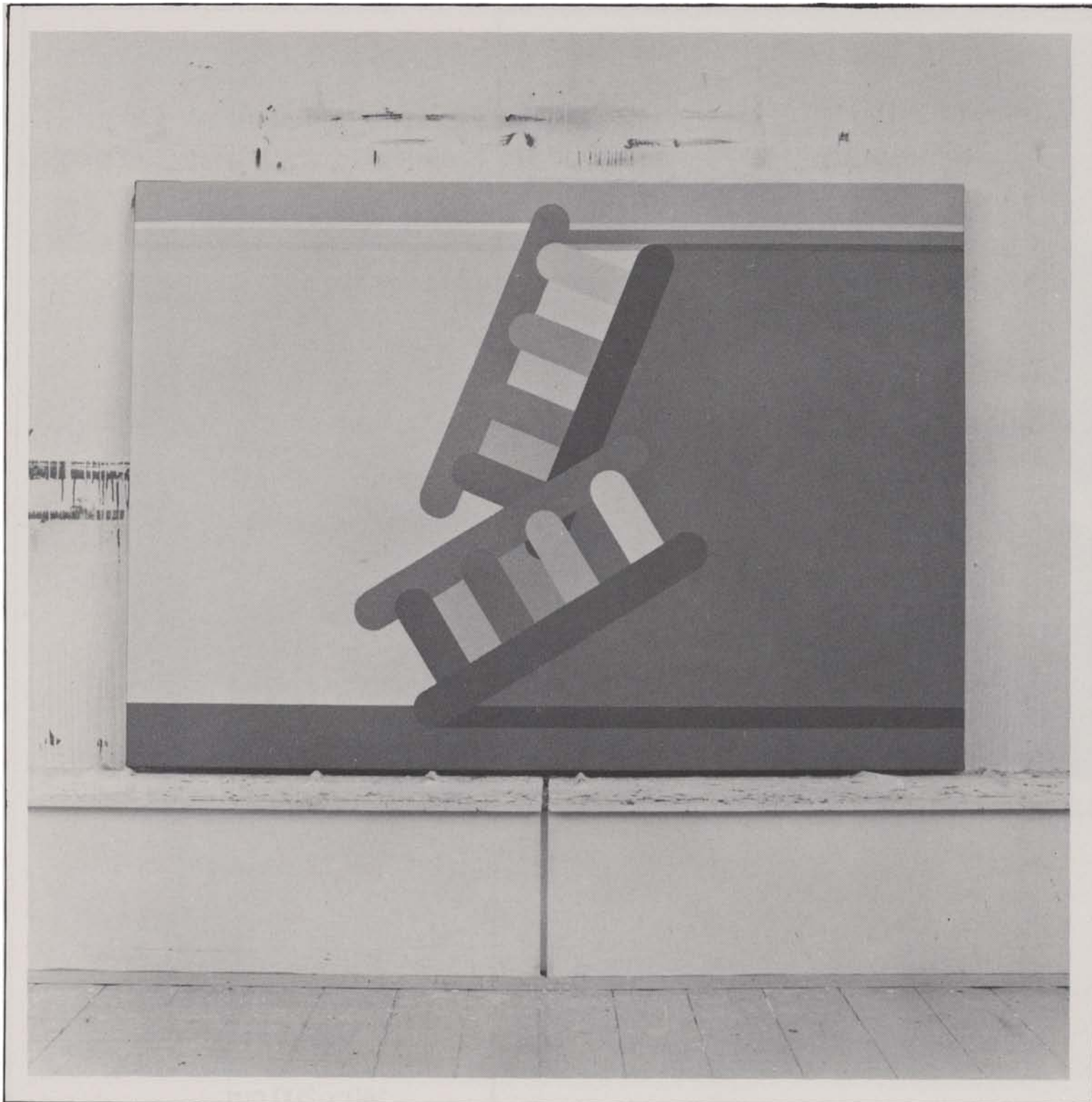
Exhibitions include: International Biennale, Venice; International Graphic Biennale, Paris; International Biennale, Tokyo; Smithsonian workshop prints, Naples, Rome, Milan, Bologna; Museo Arte Moderno, Mexico City; National Collection of Fine Arts, Washington, D.C.



Big blue Wallenda.
acrylic on canvas 1979
140 x 200 cm.



Stage set with balls.
Ups and Downs.
Acrylic on canvas 1980
140 x 200 cm.

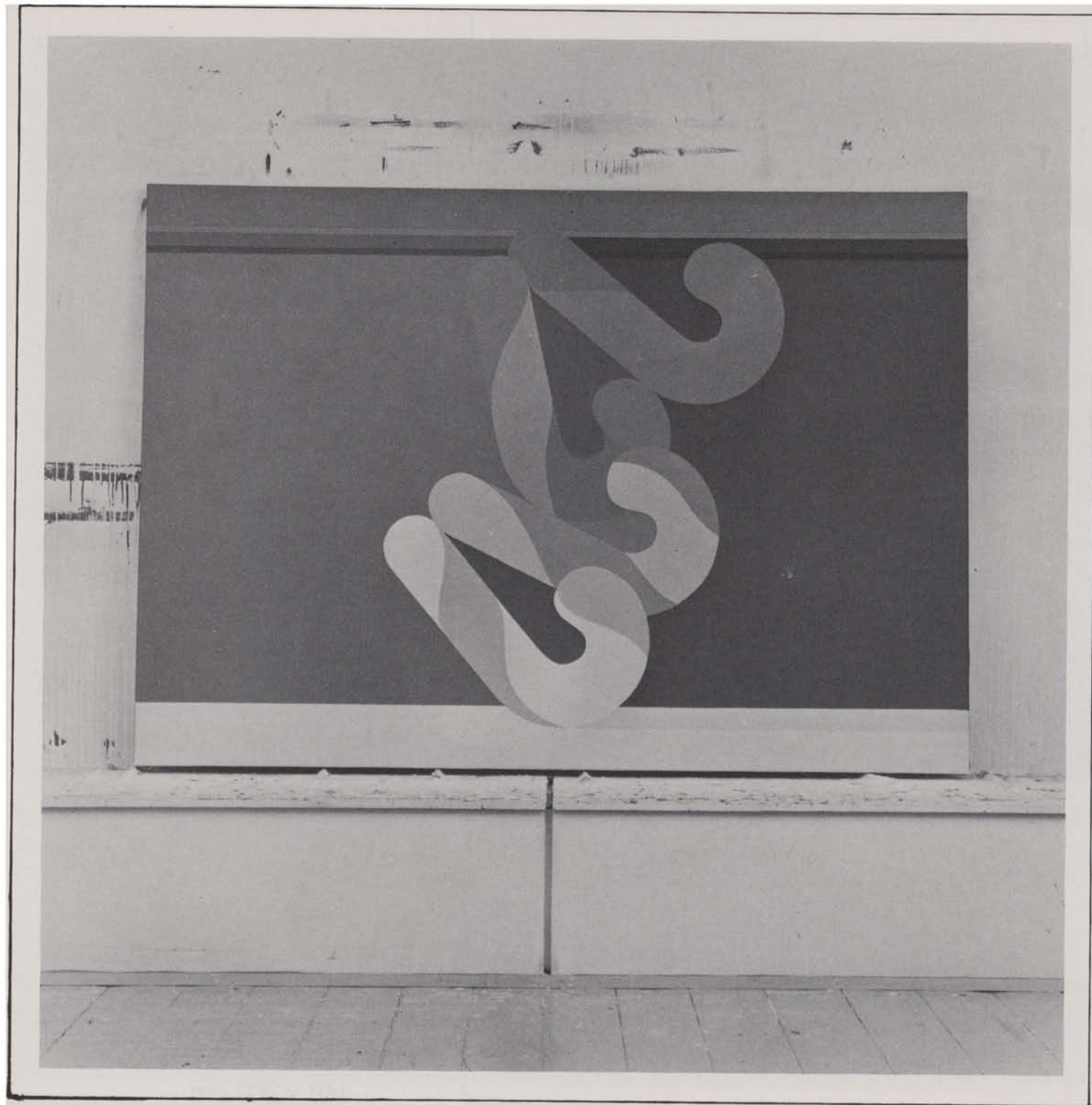


Stage set with ladders.

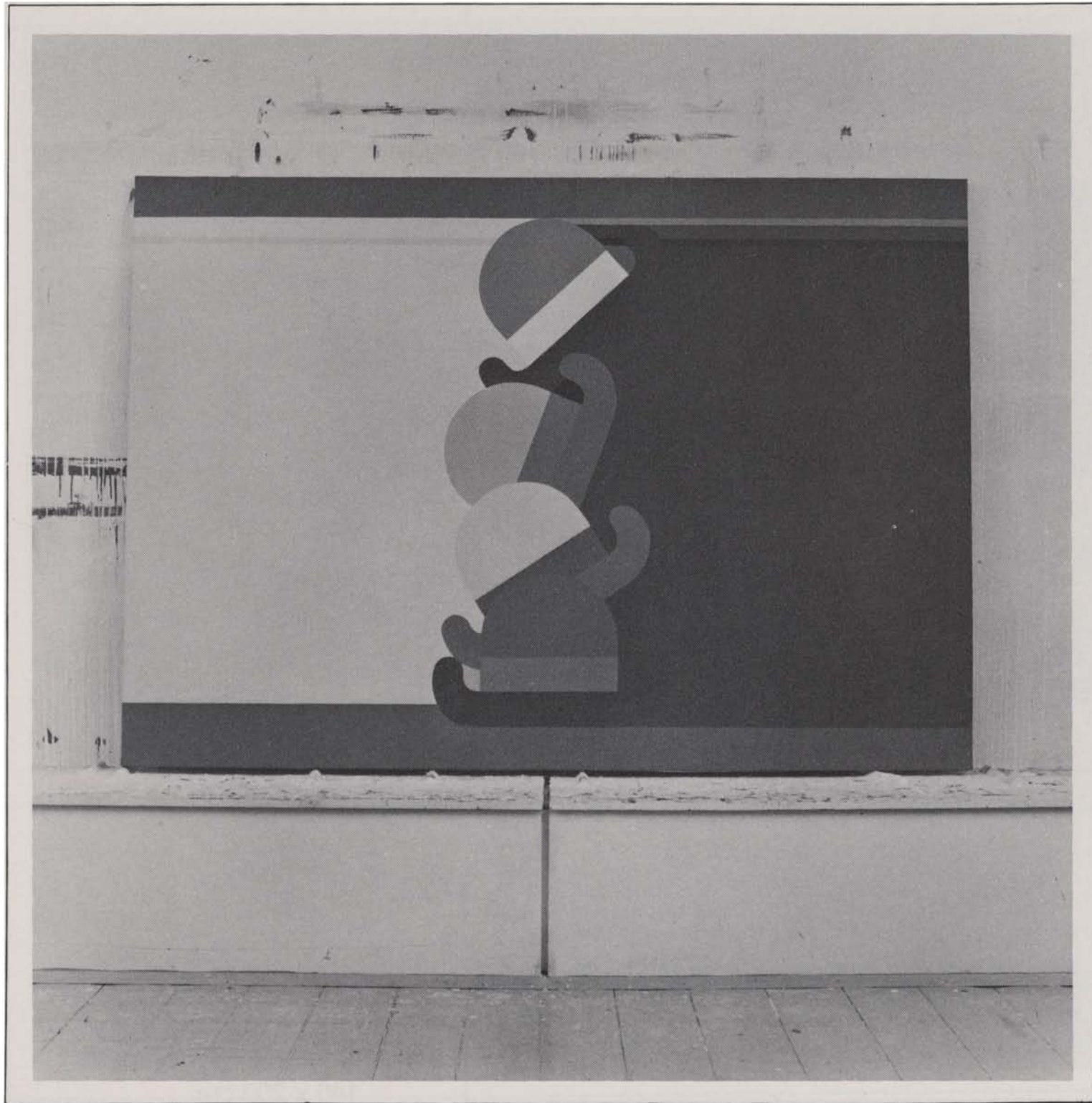
Ups and downs.

acrylic on canvas 1980

140 x 200 cm.



Stage set with sticks.
Ups and downs.
acrylic on canvas 1980
140 x 200 cm.

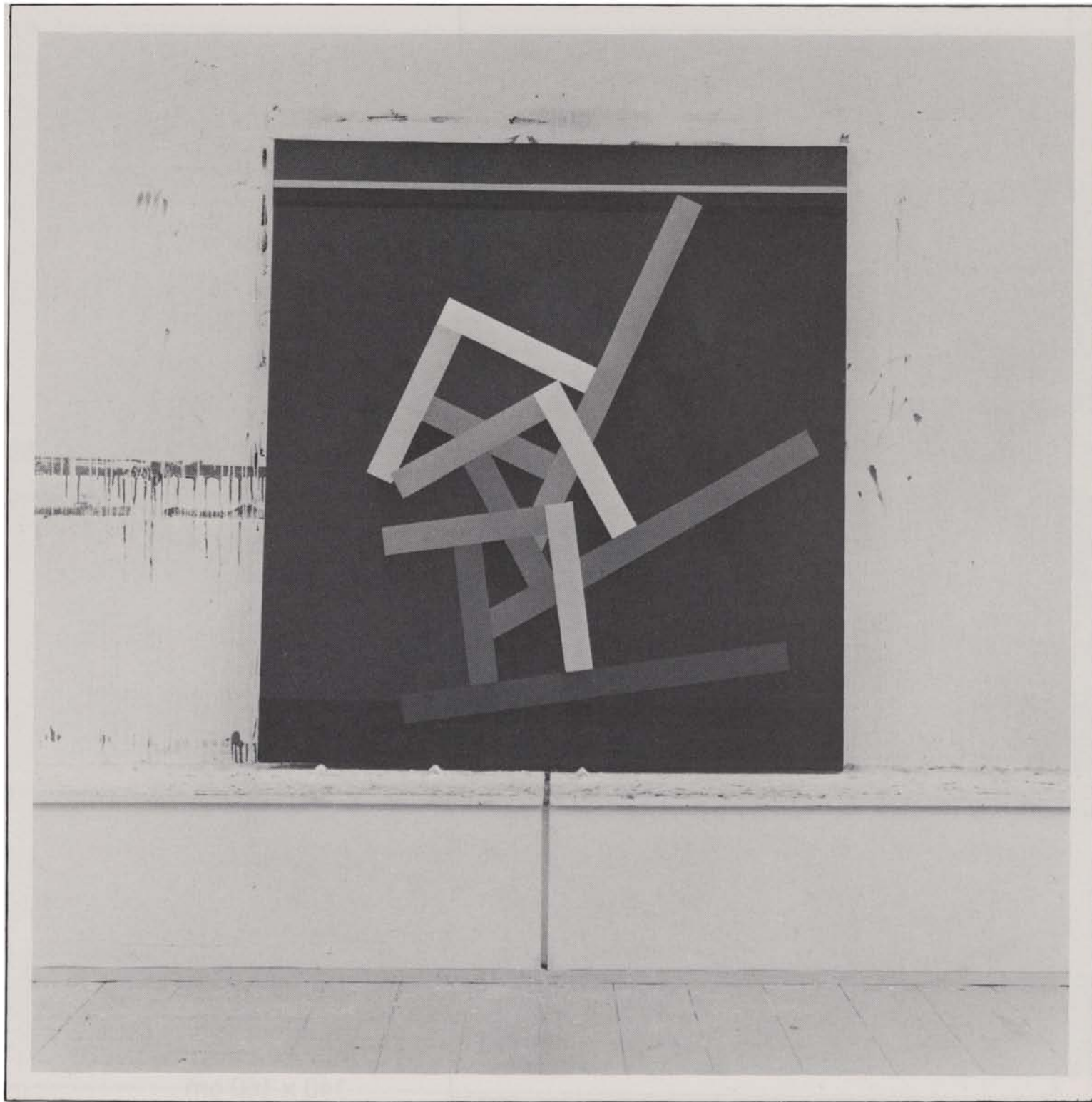


Stage set with hats.
Ups and downs.
acrylic on canvas 1980
140 x 200 cm.



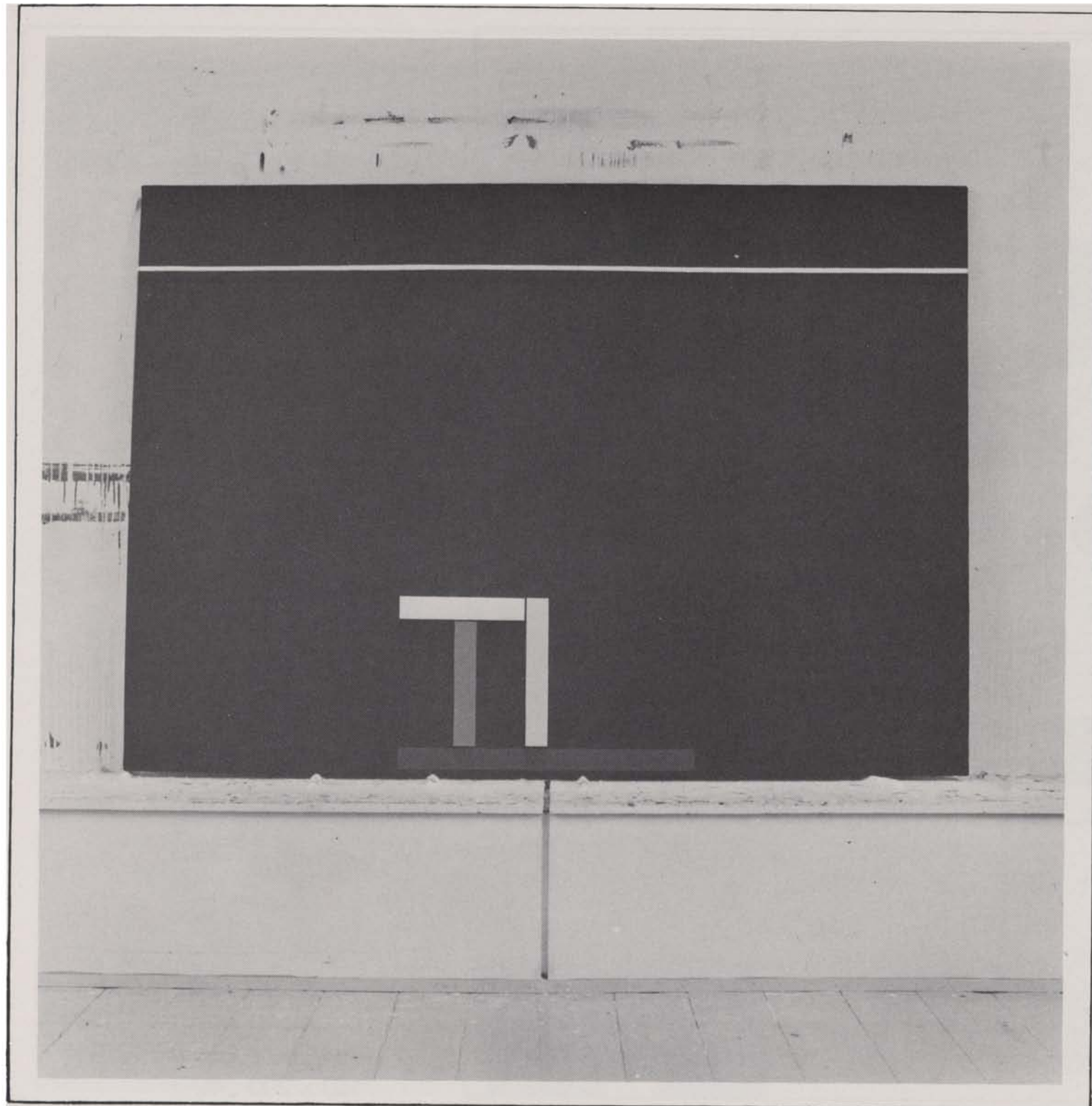
**Stage set with big
spaghetti.**

acrylic on canvas 1978
140 x 150 cm.

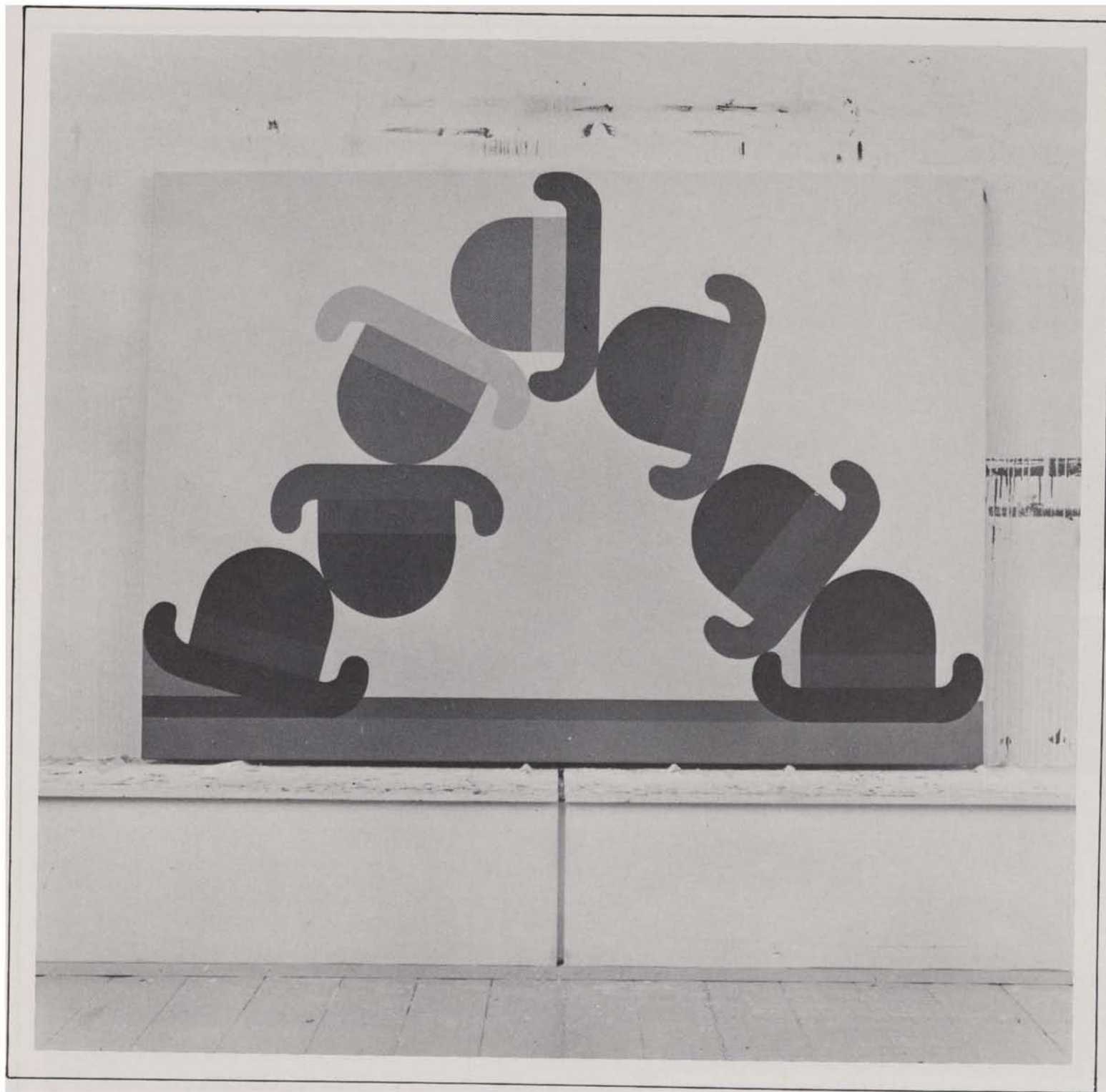


**Stage set with falling
chairs. Ups and
downs of the flying
Wallendas. Gott unter
uns. The higher
the harder.**

acrylic on canvas 1979
160 x 140 cm.



Big black Wallenda
acrylic on canvas 1979
140 x 200 cm.



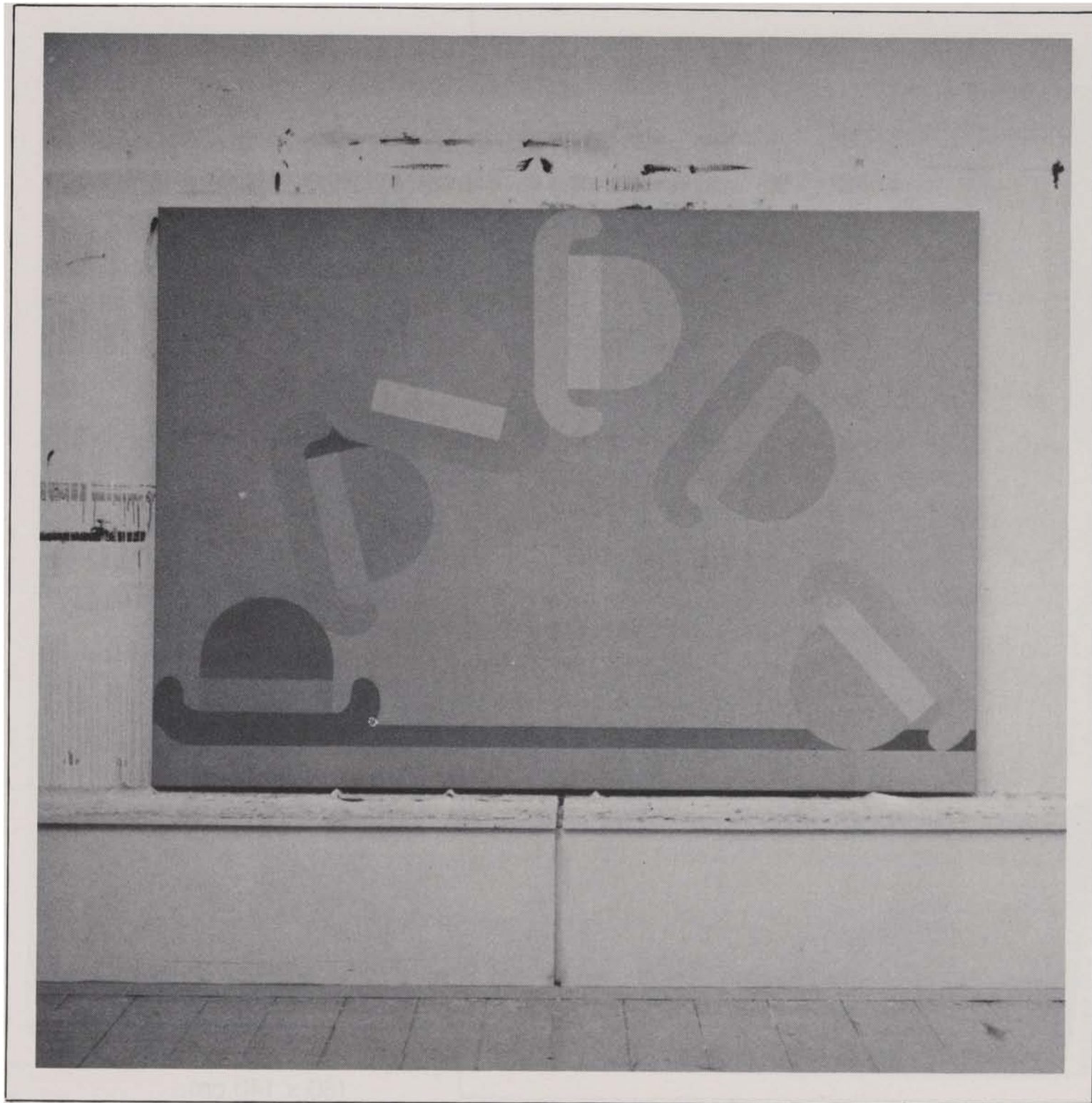
Stage set with hats.

Left to right.

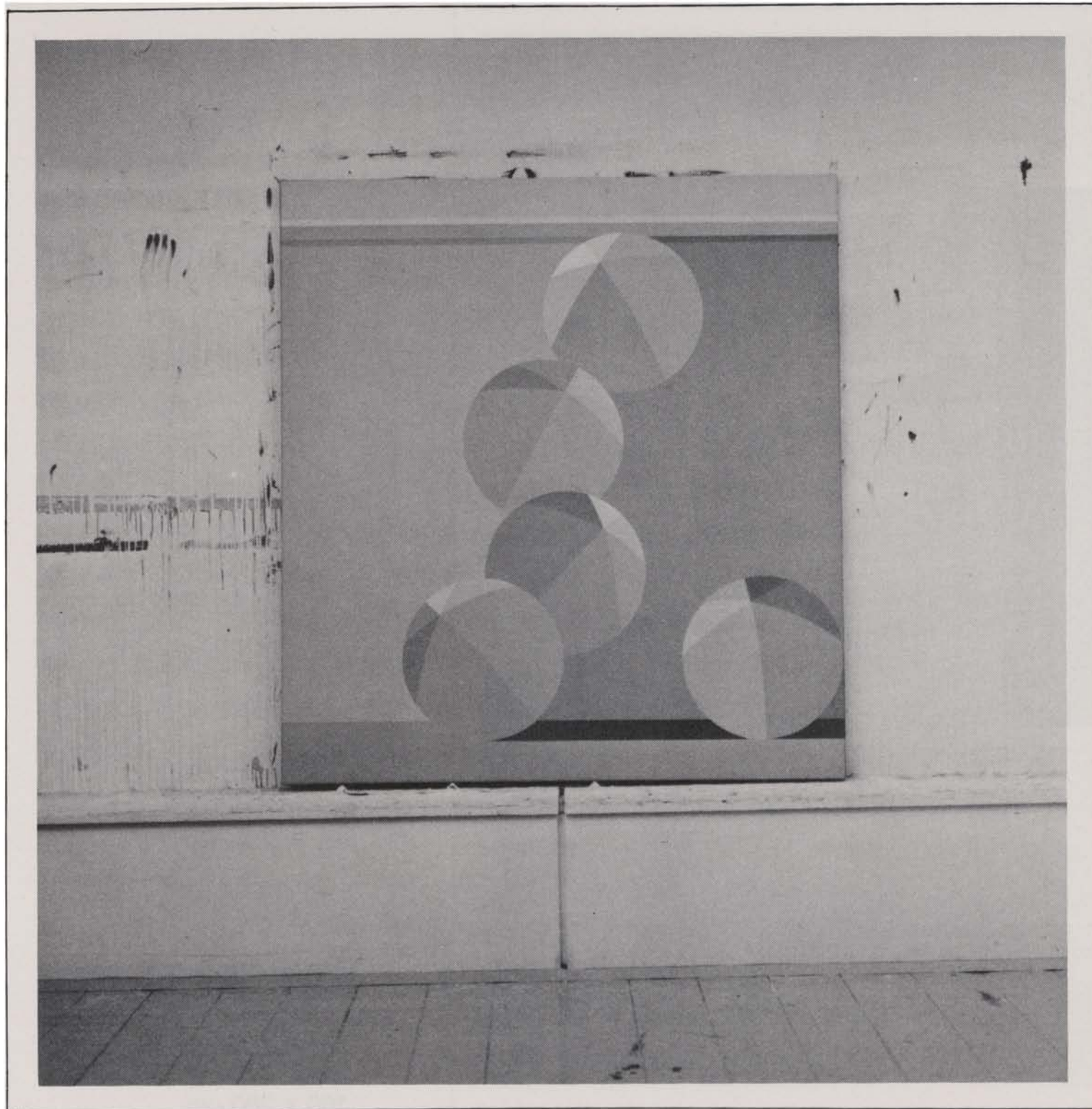
acrylic on canvas 1979
140 x 200 cm.



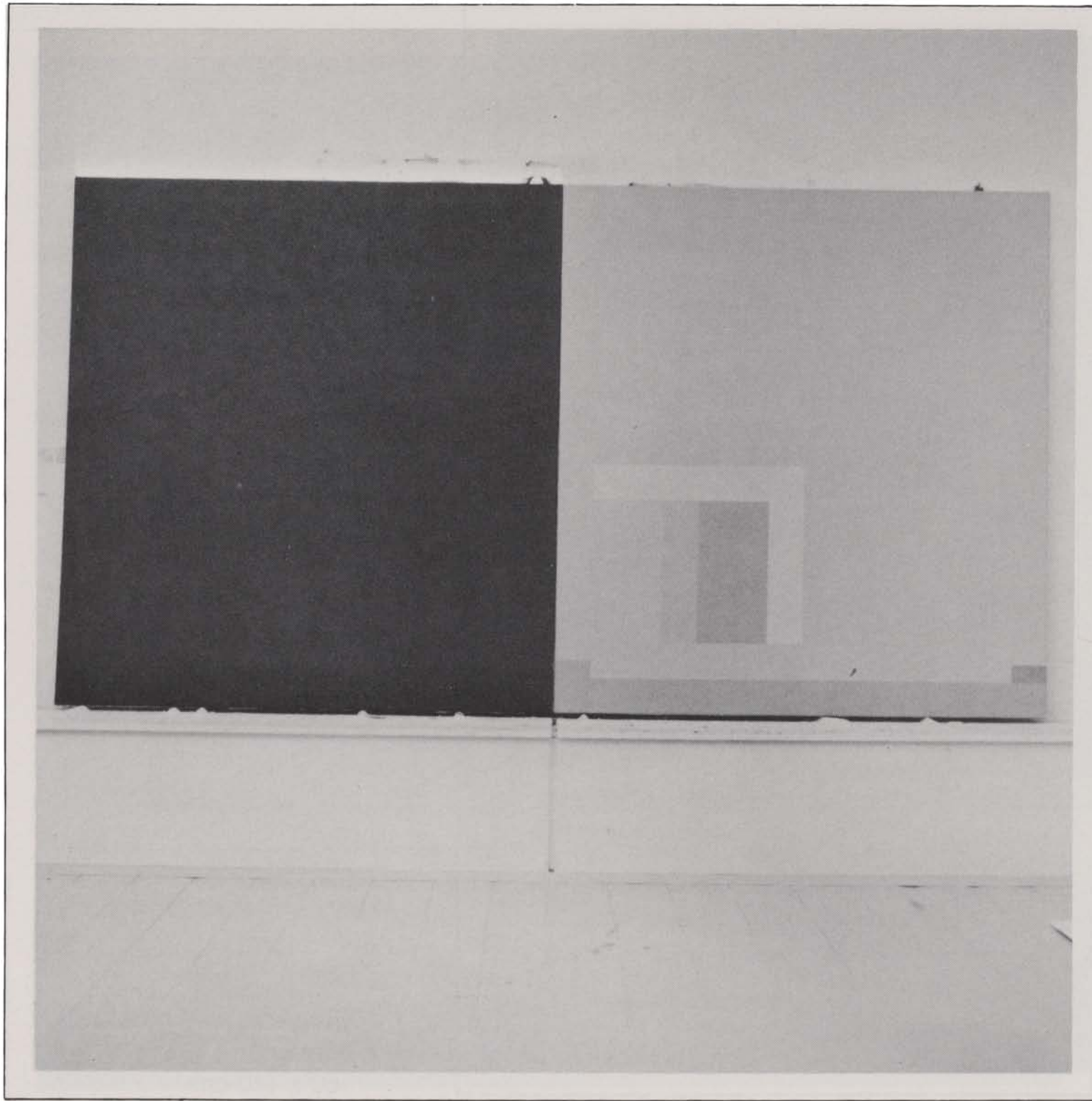
**Portrait in front of
Stage set with hats.**
acrylic on canvas 1980
160 x 140 cm.



**Stage set with blue
hats. Balance.**
acrylic on canvas 1979
160 x 140 cm.



Stage set with blue balls.
acrylic on canvas 1979
160 x 140 cm.



**Big sentimental stage
set with falling chair.
I am red. I am blue.**
acrylic on canvas 1979
160 x 280 cm.

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