



*Eikthyrnir's Hall* oil on two canvases

The title is from The Poetic Edda, a centuries old collection of Norse mythology, which I was impressed with around the time I made this painting. Eikþyrnir (Old Norse "oak-thorny"), or Eikthyrnir, is a stag which stands upon Valhalla.

The painting itself is more based on dreams that I had in late 1989, of seeing deer flit in and out of my peripheral vision. So the painting could have very well have been appropriately titled "Mystery Dream Deer" or something like that. I was simply using the title concept to fit in with the nordic themed series I was cultivating at the time. I started it in late '89, and finished it in 1990 by adding the rune painted smaller canvas to the front, with it's surreal antler shapes adding some more verticality to the work. It completed what felt unfinished before.

This was a time of art school experimentation, when it was popular to attach canvases to canvases. This was one of my own unique takes on doing so.

I painted some of this while at the Academy, and some of it reworked in my Mission district flat over winter break into 1990.

When I see it, I am reminded of the small glögg party that I threw that December, and then another large glögg party a year later with this on display in the living room. It fit the dark, wintery night of that particular season.