



KRISTEN CLIBURN

Born 1974 in Newton, TX

Currently lives and works in Houston, TX

The Receptive Eye

The exhibition *The Receptive Eye* invites viewers to see with a kind of receptivity, of easing the mind in order to allow something to work upon you;

to receive:

: to assimilate through the mind or senses: to permit to enter: to acquire, experience.

This body of work explores the dynamic relationship between what we see and how we interpret visual information as it relates specifically to color and light intensities in painting.

The use of color in these paintings couples equal or near-equal light intensities. Compositions utilizing horizontal bands work together symmetrically with precise layering of color to stabilize the image and keep the visual field afloat.

Each of these paintings convey softness and intensity. They have analogues to the natural world but are reorganized and reinterpreted through color alone. They do not depict a thing, or emotions, nor are they exalted, or absolute. They offer color as experience, as distillation, as an idea of the way things feel poetically.

Of the Dove I, 60 x 60", is quietly potent with dense, opaque whites focused centrally in a large horizontal band flanked on top and bottom by translucent grays that gradually fade into soft whites highlighting the top and bottom edges of the frame.

Likewise, *Cloud Chord I*, 60 x 60", depicts a harmonic set of colors related to the sky like lines on the staff. Presenting five horizontal bands of color, the center is neutral, the two warm tones opposite the center are similar to one another but differentiate to become either more orange or more pink. The next two cool tones top and bottom do the same as they become blue or purple respectively.

The outermost top and bottom edges of raw canvas activate the neutral center in the same way as the other parallel band pairings by creating tension between warm and cool tones.

Celebrating the pleasure of seeing, the work in *The Receptive Eye* explores new articulations in color field painting integrating the eye, the intellect, and the heart.