

DOLBY CHADWICK GALLERY

Sherie' Franssen

Tempest

September 7–30, 2017

Dolby Chadwick Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of new work by the painter Sherie' Franssen, on view September 7 to 30. Franssen works in an abstract style that features bold, vivid colors and voluptuous, animated strokes. Without resorting to naturalism, her dynamic compositions skillfully evoke recession into space and include elements that suggest the contours of the body.

The paintings in this show exhibit a newfound looseness and sensuality, as if Franssen's gestures have realized an innate trajectory of soft curves and sweeping turns. This painterly unfettering parallels Franssen's desire for the works to be cinematic, to provoke a sense of urgency—even darkness—but at the same time to be intimate. Playing with light and dark helps her achieve this emotional register.

In *Red Tempest* (2016–17), for instance, shadows are caught deep in the composition's recesses, occasionally breaking free and zipping across the predominately red, almost technicolor surface in a bid for freedom. They are counterpoised, however, by bright, often white marks that act as a foil and shift the drama by adding nuance and complexity. Here, we feel the tug between inner and outer, between build-up and resolution, and between shadow—an inevitable part of life—and light. This and other works offer a solid statement about how the artist feels, and about what it means to feel, even if we cannot always completely account for those feelings.

As a result of Franssen's interest in poetry, the cinematic unfolding that takes place in her paintings is rhythmic, as if embodying the metrical patterns of her favored poets, including Emily Dickinson, D. H. Lawrence, and Edna St. Vincent Millay. *Neither Out Far Nor in Deep* (2017), for example, is named after a Robert Frost poem that uses the infinite, hypnotic sea to comment on mankind's tendency to fixate upon the unknowable and the distant. Franssen, however, does not create one-to-one relationships between poems and her paintings. Instead, here we feel what could be described as the swelling of the tides, and we find ourselves scanning the composition, searching for something that cannot necessarily be found: an answer, a resolution, a lynchpin.

Throughout her career, Franssen has also mined the history of art as a source of inspiration. Among the artists she cites are Northern and Italian Renaissance masters, particularly the ways they use color and contrast, portray emotions, and comport the body. While this reference might be initially surprising, given her decidedly modernist aesthetic, it speaks to her interest in the human condition and the depth and sensitivity upon which the paintings are predicated.

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Sherie' Franssen was born in Torrance, California, in 1952. In 1999, she earned her BFA in Drawing and Painting from California State University, Long Beach. Her work has been exhibited in museum and gallery shows across the country, including in HEADS, a 2011 exhibition curated by Peter Selz. Franssen has been reviewed in the San Francisco Chronicle, Los Angeles Times, and Art Ltd. This will be Franssen's sixth solo show at the Dolby Chadwick Gallery.

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Sherie' Franssen

EDUCATION

1999 Drawing and Painting, California State University Long Beach, Long Beach, CA, B.F.A.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2017 Tempest, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Undertow, Von Lintel Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2014 The Gorgeous Nothings, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
2012 Flesh and Blood, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
2010 Flesh Was the Reason, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
2008 Driving Into the Ocean, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
2007 Just An Inch of Ocean, Huntington Beach Art Center, Huntington Beach, CA
Sherie' Franssen, Claustrophobia, Jancar Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2006 Satisfaction Is Nothing, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
2004 Subversive Acts, The Office-An Art Space, Huntington Beach, CA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2011 Entering Abstraction, Ruth Bachofner Gallery, Bergamot Station, Santa Monica, CA
Heads, curated by Peter Selz, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Pet Project, Huntington Beach Art Center, CA
2009 Group Show, Peter Blake Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA
2008 The Glittering Prize, Outdoor installation collaboration with Mark Dutcher, Huntington Beach Art Center, HB, CA
2006 Carl Berg Gallery Group Show, Carl Berg Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Impressionism, Brea City Gallery, Brea, CA
2005 Fresh, Silent Art Auction, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA
Venice Art Walk Auction, Venice, CA
Emerging Artist's 2005, Gallery C, Hermosa Beach, CA
American Gothic – New Talent for the Dark Ages, Gallery C, Hermosa Beach, CA
The OsCene in Contemporary Art and Culture, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA
artLA The New LA Art Fair, The Office-An Art Space, Huntington Beach, CA
2004 American Gothic – New Talent for the Dark Ages, Gallery C, Hermosa Beach, CA
The OsCene in Contemporary Art and Culture, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA
San Diego Art Institute International Exhibit, San Diego Art Institute, San Diego, CA
2004 Muckenthaler Biennial Exhibition, Muckenthaler Cultural Center, Fullerton, CA
Woman Made Exhibit, Long Beach Arts Gallery, Long Beach, CA
2003 San Diego Art Institute International Exhibit, San Diego Art Institute
Projekt 30 Gallery Group Show, Projekt30.com

DOLBY CHADWICK GALLERY

- Square Blue Gallery Group Show, Square Blue Gallery, Costa Mesa, CA
- 2002 Muckenthaler Biennial Exhibition, Muckenthaler Cultural Center Fullerton, CA
- 1998 Insights '98, University Art Museum, California State University Long Beach Group Show, Long Beach, CA
- 1997 Open Studio, New Paintings, 7th Street Produce Market, Los Angeles, CA
Long Beach Arts All Southern California Group Show, Long Beach, CA
Broken Jaw of Lost Kingdoms, California State University Long Beach, Long Beach, CA
- 1996 The Gallery Downstairs Group Show, The Gallery Downstairs, Pasadena, CA
- 1995 Group Show, University Art Museum, California State University Long Beach Group Show, Long Beach

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2010 Baker, Kenneth, "Franssen at Dolby Chadwick Gallery", San Francisco Chronicle, November 13, 2010
- 2009 Baker, Kenneth, "Top 5 Art Picks for 2008", San Francisco Chronicle, January 3, 2009
- 2008 Baker, Kenneth, "Abstractions from Paintbrush and Camera", San Francisco Chronicle, December 13, 2008
- 2007 "Big, Bold Paintings In Small Places", Los Angeles Times, September 14, 2007, Calendar, Around the Galleries, Page E31
"Just An Inch of Ocean' has depth", The Orange County Register, March 12, 2007, Arts and Entertainment, Page 12
"Art Imitates Strife", Squeeze OC, March 15, 2007, Page 2
"Springtime Trio", Coast Magazine, April 1, 2007, Art Access, Page 179
"Visceral Art That Pushes Out of the Comfort Zone" San Francisco Chronicle, November 4, 2006, Datebook, Page E10
- 2005 New American Paintings Pacific Coast Edition, Volume 55
- 2004 "American Gothic: Talent for the Dark Ages," Easy Reader, December 16
- 2004 "Orange County Artists Set the Scene in 'Oscene'," Laguna News Post, November, p. 22
- 2004 "By and About Women," San Bernardino County Sun, March
- 2003 "New Faces," San Diego Union Tribune, June
- 2003 "International Language," San Diego Metropolitan, May
- 2003 Panorama Miast Polskich, May

AWARDS

- 2004 "Woman Made Show," Long Beach Arts Gallery, Long Beach, CA
- 2003 "San Diego Art Institute International Show," Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, San Diego, CA
- 1997 "Long Beach Arts All Southern California Group Show," Long Beach Arts Gallery, Long Beach, CA
- 1995 "Group Show," University Art Museum, California State University Long Beach Group Show, Long Beach, CA

DOLBY CHADWICK GALLERY

LECTURES

- 2004 "Sex Behind the Curtain," Panel Discussion, Laguna Art Museum, moderated by Tyler Stallings, Laguna Beach, CA
- 1999-02 "Drawing and Painting the Figure," Long Beach City College, Long Beach, CA

COLLECTIONS

Riverside Art Museum, Riverside CA