TELLURIDE GALLERY OF FINE ART

Sue Dirksen

Sue Dirksen examines the amorphous tension between color, space and density. The result is a powerful intersection of fluidity and form, which is both inviting and palpable for the viewer.

As an abstract expressionist, Dirksen's work is devoid of imagery, but is prompted by the natural world – in particular, the element of water with its malleability and convergence. Hard edges of color quickly turn to swells and washes of varying hues. Dirksen commands the surfaces and uses a wide array of brushes to move water, paint and medium across the canvas, painstakingly refining with pristine tenacity. Soft and subtle at first, the layers reveal dimensions of complexity—churning colors and visceral forms, inviting viewers to sink invitingly into the depths.

Dirksen says of her work, "I allow intuition to guide me and use the brush as an extension of my arm — to bring forth luminosity and potently-hued energy. I am a colorist that meticulously builds up the painting with thin layers of acrylic wash — often into the hundreds — to embody the varying intensities of light/color. When experienced from different points of view, the paintings pulsate, as the subtleties of light change to create a vibrant, impeccable, living surface."

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