



KENISE BARNES FINE ART

Press Release – Kent, CT

New exhibition: April 9 – May 15, 2022

Reception: Saturday April 9, 4 – 6 PM, public invited

Gallery hours: Thursday – Saturday 11:00 – 5:00, Sunday 12:00 – 5:00, and by appointment

Unexpected Windows – new paintings by Elizabeth Gourlay

Kenise Barnes Fine Art is pleased to present a solo exhibition of new paintings by Elizabeth Gourlay. This is the artist's first one-person exhibition with the gallery.

Elizabeth Gourlay's work is a meditation on color and form, a gradual yet progressive rumination leading to a complex vocabulary of shapes, color and line. Musical composition, emotional states and our collective subconscious resonate within bars, lines and blocks of color. The abstract forms emerge, layer and shift in precisely ordered, carefully composed rhythms. The artist contemplates the elements that make color in reduced forms come to life: size, flatness, relation to its edges, and how the presence of other colors affect how it is perceived.

Gourlay draws inspiration from shapes found in everyday life and in her studio. The observed shapes either remain as they are or become simplified to their essential geometric elements. Subtleties in color, area, edge, or orientation are the catalyst for emotive responses. Palette is minimized; the artist rarely uses a wide palette within one work. Rather, a broad range of colors are explored and then reduced. Gourlay investigates color properties: complimentary or analogous color, value, saturation, and color harmony vs. color anomaly.

Elizabeth's Gourlay's work has been shown extensively throughout the United States. The artist is the recipient of numerous residencies, fellowships and awards including Artist-in-Residence at the studio of Sol LeWitt in Spoleto, Italy. Gourlay's work has been written about in *The New Criterion*, *Painters' Table* and *Gorky's Granddaughter*, to name a few. Gourlay earned her MFA at Yale University School of Art, New Haven, CT, and her BA from Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh, Scotland. The artist lives and works in CT.

Please contact Kenise Barnes, director: Kenise@kbfa.com with inquires or to arrange a preview of the exhibition.