



KENISE BARNES FINE ART

SUSAN ENGLISH

STATEMENT

*Weather*

The title of my exhibition, *Weather* has multifaceted meaning for me. First and probably most importantly the color, light and space in my work is related to shifts in light, atmosphere, temperature and to my daily experience of weather. The noticing and awareness of subtle and not so subtle shifts, including the way natural light manifests in my studio, is a primary content of my work. Another aspect of *Weather* that resonates with my work is its unpredictability. We deal with daily predictions of what the weather will bring, but the weather proceeds of its own accord. I love that this is something we cannot control. Unpredictability relates directly to my process. The transparent pours by which I build layers of paint on my surfaces begin as predictions; I meditate on a work and then carefully consider the color, degree of transparency, sheen, and thickness of each poured layer. Even after years of working in this way, I don't know exactly what the color or quality of the pour will be until it dries 24 hours later. There are always surprises; both happy and unhappy. But whatever the result, it leads the direction of the painting.

And finally, my preoccupation with weather is due to climate change and its ramifications on daily life. I hope that my work not only offers respite by capturing beauty but conveys the urgent need to pay attention to the world around us as things are so rapidly changing and disappearing.

Susan English, 2022