



MARY JUDGE

STATEMENT

*Geo Thermal Borealis*

My show title was chosen to evoke the Earth and its hidden forces, both visual and physical. Geo, from the Greek, meaning earth, references geology. My work has also involved "geometries," Greek, meaning earth measurement, for many years. *Borealis*, from Latin, "dawn, goddess of the dawn," Greek *Boreas*, the god of the north wind; australis "southern," from Auster "the south, the south wind." "Thermal," "Geo Thermal," hot stuff from below! Like lava flows, steam geysers, mud baths. So *Geo Thermal Borealis*, things from below the earth and things from above. Beautiful opposing phenomena.

The works on paper in this show were made in Water Mill NY, Long Island, in a big vacation house a friend lent to me which allowed me to spread out and create during a time when I did not have a proper studio. I layered together opposing shapes and repetitions taken from my previous *spolvero* works and prints and created a group of colorful dynamic works with powdered pigments and stencils.

I wanted to develop this work on canvas, something I have been attempting in various ways for years with mixed success and here I feel I finally tapped into the right processes. These include the use of sprayed paint with stencils, integrated with the *spolvero* technique. This work has a different dynamic than the pieces on paper and allowed me also to work larger.

Some of the inspiration for the imagery include optical migraines, (I have these on and off) they are characterized by blinking jagged linear patterns that appear in your vision, Native American rugs, Mexican and Middle Eastern pattern found in weaving and architecture and the patterns from nature, like the Aurora Borealis.

The joy for me has been in the discoveries made on in paint, uniting together past forms and new processes and invoking things that are felt but unseen.