

Chris Richter | Artist Statement

Reveal

To Reveal is to make known, uncover and cause to be seen. My paintings and process have always conveyed a sense of uncovering. Working toward, but never really knowing what might be seen. Through the mixing of paint, the layering upon layer of application and then the sanding, scraping - in a sense burnishing - the surface to reveal what's below. A finish that eludes to something unexpected.

These new Reveal Paintings continue to embody that notion and spirit. To disguise and unearth nature. Trees in the forest on the mountain. Waves in a swell on the ocean. Environments that seem familiar or ones we can only imagine. And when these paintings tend to be of a minimalist view they take us to a place of subtlety, creating calm in what is most often a chaotic matter of subject.

Many of these new works incorporate painterly strokes and gestures, mark making that allows me a point of departure to pursue throughout the painting process. Colors shift and vibrate resonating into something identifiable and yet indescribable. An embossed line within the painting's surface hints at another dimension. The fluctuation of color, the sheen amid a satin finish reflect an intriguing place of reference. The square composition of most of these canvas covered panels removes them from the familiar landscape which inspired them and into a field of engaging abstraction. Where visible, the color dripped edges offer a history into each work's process and physicality.