

Found Meditations: K Silve

October 25th -
November 16th, 2013

Opening Reception:
October 25th, 6 - 8 pm

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Love Affair, acrylic on canvas, 42 x 46

K Silve's intuitive and deliberate acrylic paintings unfold through layers of lush colors, aggressive brushwork and drips pushing and pulling off the sides of her canvases. Her paintings are based on momentary interactions with nature. She focuses on experiences, discovering life's little moments of energy and inspiration.

Many of the paintings in Found Meditations are inspired by Silve's morning walks through the neighborhoods of Portland. She pauses to consider and appreciate the color of a particular flower in a garden, the morning fog in the distance along Alameda drive, or the startling rush of coming upon a rare urban coyote. Others are inspired by the sculptures of John Chamberlain (1927-2011) with whom she has been fascinated since viewing his retrospective at the Guggenheim. She is awe struck by his success at combining rigid, impermeable materials to create expressive sculptures full of life and personality. Always, Silve is inspired by both the abundance of produce and the interactions of people at her local farmers' market.

Only after Silve mentally records the immersive intimacy of being a part of an experience does she begin to visualize a painting. In her studio, she works in a more structural way to develop these paintings, working from the outside inward to capture the fullness of being immersed in life or nature. She builds her canvases with layer upon layer of color, much as Chamberlain built his sculptures by arranging layer upon layer of colored metal.

Silve's work is in hundreds of private collections, nationally and internationally, as well as in numerous corporate collections. Most recently, Silve's work was acquired for the permanent collection of the new U.S. Consulate in Monterrey, Mexico.

Silve has exhibited throughout the United States, Europe and most recently in Doha, Qatar as part of the Art in Embassies Program. Early in Silve's painting career, she exhibited at the Jemison-Carnegie Heritage Hall in Alabama and the Tuscaloosa Performing Art Center. Since then she has exhibited at different/numerous galleries and Universities including The Institute for American Universities in Aix-en-Provence, France, the Portland Center for the Performing Arts and, in 2011, was invited to be the Resident Artist at Texas A&M University. The artist currently maintains two studios, one in Portland, Oregon, and the other in Provence, France.