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GALLERY & ART ADVISORY

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Rachel Kaye
Green Flash

September 14 - October 31, 2023

Sarah Shepard Gallery welcomes back Bay Area artist Rachel Kaye for her third exhibition with a solo show of fifteen new works. This is her second solo show with the gallery.

Equally versed in painting and drawing, Kaye focuses primarily on pencil on paper for this exhibition, using ethereal, evocative colors to explore abstraction, playfully manipulating form and shape. Kaye's interplay of jostling shapes and intricate textural qualities coupled with her subtle, rhythmic exploration of color speaks to a sculptural influence.

Deeply influenced by nature and the intangible concept of femininity, Kaye incorporates organic shapes and forms suggesting or alluding to the natural world. The color green sweeps through this exhibition, reflecting Kaye's deepening relationship with nature. Molokai and her family lived on the Hawaiian island of Molokai in 2021, and the landscape deeply influenced her recent work. In her newest work, Kaye expands even further, re-visiting those familiar shapes, while adding new ones along with further intricate patterns.

Her attraction to working in pencil stems from its immediacy and clear process of building from sketchbook thumbnails to fully realized works of art. She finds working in pencil both meditative and a means of acting decisively with color.

Approaching her work as an intriguing set of problems, Kaye begins to create through a series of self-directed questions: Can she evoke a mood or temperature? Can she capture movement in stillness? Can she allude to a place? "The questions I begin with hint at the ephemeral qualities of landscapes, and the way memories can almost tangibly sit on their surfaces," Kaye says.

The exhibition also includes two small oils on canvas.

Kaye lives with her two children and husband, fellow artist, Jay Nelson, in San Francisco, with whom she often collaborates. She earned a BFA from California College of the Arts (CCA) in San Francisco, CA. She has exhibited nationally and internationally in Paris, Tokyo, San Francisco, Oakland, New York, Los Angeles & Palm Beach. Kaye has completed large-scale murals at Google (Mountain View), Meta (Menlo Park) and the Hook Fish Restaurant (San Francisco). Kaye's work has been featured in the Huffington Post, Refinery 29, Artsy, SF Gate & East Bay Express.

For more information contact sarah@sarahshepardgallery.com or 917-375-2720.

Image: © Rachel Kaye, *Summer Moon*, colored pencil on paper, 19 x 25 in. All rights reserved.