

BETTY CUNINGHAM GALLERY

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Gordon Moore: New Paintings and Drawings

September 6, 2007 – October 13, 2007

Gallery Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 10 am – 6 pm

Opening: Thursday, September 6, 2007, 6 – 8 pm

On Thursday, September 6, 2007, Betty Cuningham Gallery will open an exhibition of new paintings and works on paper by Gordon Moore.

The current group of large scale paintings further develops the abstracted format and reduced palette of the works exhibited in Moore's previous show in this gallery in 2005. In the earlier pieces the strong grid, the multiple veils and the piercing structures were elements of a formal language developed by Moore to explore his continuing visual concerns. The grid alluded to security netting that caught his attention on the streets of New York and it supplied the context of gritty urban reality. A piece of rebar that pierced the netting inspired the protruding clusters of drawn lines that created the dramatic and emotional elements within the extreme economy of the rest of the painting. That there was a reference to a real world event is crucial to Moore's empirical process.

A striking development from 2005 to the present is the integration and subsequent dissolving of the grid format. Now solid blocks of modulated color hold the structure taut and the tight clusters of agitated lines have stretched out into graceful arching ribbons of color. There is an expansion and a subtle change in tempo and it is tempting to imagine a movement away from the rigor of the New York streets and a stronger reference to nature.

Moore, born in Cherokee, Iowa in 1947, graduated from the University of Washington, Seattle in 1970 and subsequently attended Yale, where he received his MFA in 1972. In 1976 Moore had his first one-man exhibition at Cuningham Ward in New York. He received the National Endowment for the Arts-Visual Artists Fellowship (1980), the Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Award in Painting (1991) and the Adolph & Ester Gottlieb Foundation Award in Painting (2001). In April, 2007 Moore had a solo exhibition at the Stephen Wirtz Gallery in San Francisco.

The exhibition will remain on view through Saturday, October 13, 2007. For further information and photographs please contact the gallery at 212 242 2772 or info@bettycuninghamgallery.com.

NEXT EXHIBITION: *William Bailey* October 18 – November 24, 2007

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