

Abstract Feminine Moments: Harmony Hammond at Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects



Censorship is to art what lynching is to justice, as per Henry Louis Gates. When Queer Art becomes abstract, we encourage debate, dissent, and discussion. In this regard, go take a look at “Recent Paintings” by Harmony Hammond, on view at Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects. Harmony Hammond, a leading figure in the early days of the Feminist Art Movement in New York in the 1970s, was a co-founder of the quarterly “Heresies: A Feminist Publication on Art and Politics” and of “A.I.R.,” the first women’s co-operative gallery in New York.

Harmony Hammond’s “Recent Paintings” continues with the artist/s decades-long engagement with materials and process to suggest content. The paintings in this exhibition come from two recent bodies of work: “Bandaged Grids” and “Chenilles.” At these pieced and layered paintings, the chenille reference is visual, performed by paint and other materials on the surface of the canvas, rather than the puncture of a needle and thread. “Bandaged Grid #7” depicts the transitional moment from minimal near-monochrome paintings of grids, while the off-white “Chenille” paintings, which incorporate rough burlap and grommets into Hammond’s signature layers of thick paint, suggest the soft texture and domestic warmth of cozy bedsreads.

Harmony Hammond’s artwork has been exhibited nationally and internationally at Museum of the City of New York (2016); Museum Brandhorst, Munich, Germany (2015); Rose Art Museum, Waltham, Massachusetts (2015); RedLine Art Space, Denver, Colorado (2014); National Museum of Women in the Arts, in Washington, DC (2011); MoMA PS1 (2008); Vancouver Art Gallery, Canada (2008); Museo de Arte Contemporaneo Internacional Rufino Tamayo, Mexico City (2007); Neue Galerie, Graz, Austria (2007); Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, California (2007); SITE Santa Fe, New Mexico (2002); Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (1996); Brooklyn Museum, New York (1985); New Museum, New York (1982), Downtown Whitney Museum, New York (1978), and many others.

The exhibition is on view through January 6, 2018 at Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects, 6006 Washington Boulevard Culver City, California 90232.

For details, visit: www.blouinartinfo.com/galleryguide/susanne-vielmetter-los-angeles-projects/overview

Click on the slideshow for a sneak peek at the exhibition.