

DOLBY CHADWICK GALLERY

Bernadette Jiyong Frank

Time Shadow

July 9–August 29, 2020

Dolby Chadwick Gallery is pleased to announce *Time Shadow*, an exhibition of recent work by Bernadette Jiyong Frank. Her highly layered compositions are notable for their striking geometric abstraction, effecting a multidimensionality that is both solid and ethereal. Though they exhibit strong formal parallels to natural phenomena, her paintings also move beyond the visual realm to one that can only be experienced with eyes closed.

At the heart of each of Frank's paintings is the Japanese concept of *Ma*, which is the space or pause between events, moments, forms, and thoughts. It can be felt, for example, at the bottom of a bow or in the silences that are common in Japanese conversation. These ostensibly empty intervals are in fact full—of energy, meaning, or agreement. *Ma* is also central to many Japanese art forms, including *ikebana* (flower arranging) and *Noh* theater. It likewise serves as the basis for Frank's paintings, which are built up from hundreds of layers of paint. But rather than the layers themselves, it is the space in between the layers, Frank notes, that gives the works their depth and allows them to be experienced both visually and viscerally. The final paintings produce a sense of transcendence, asking us to consider how the edges of our lives—those areas adjacent to wherever we are, physically or emotionally—might be charged with an energy, potentiality, or resonance.

Frank's *Spaces in Between* series features precise forms that fan open and close, like the scattered beams of searchlights as they whirl and rake through the sky. These beams are often concentrated in the center of the compositions, where they intersect to create hourglass-like shapes. Other times, their arrangement is more diffuse, crisscrossing in elegant patterns of syncopation that result in crystalline structures. Her series *Refraction* uses light in a similar way, though to different ends. Frank explores refractivity in these works, using her own language to capture the optical play of light rays deflecting and transforming as they interact with their environment. The remarkable depth conjured by paintings from both series is a product of their inherent *Ma*, which Frank achieves through her rigorous and time-consuming process. Each layer represents a single day, as Frank has to allow the medium to dry between applications. By emphasizing deep, ponderous blues, greens, and purples, her color palette aids the contemplative, almost mysterious mood unleashed by what can be viewed as renderings of time.

Self-portraiture is her point of departure in her newest series, *Migrant*. Though Korean, Frank grew up in Japan before moving to California at the age of thirteen; as an adult, she lived in Germany

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before moving back to the United States. Her story is one of displacement and movement, of never feeling fully rooted in one land. This is reflected in the shifting motion of the rectangular

shapes, which glimmer as they expand and reshuffle, moving back and forth in an unbroken dance. At the same time, the rectangular shape—a robust, solid form—signifies the strength of the individual. Unlike *Spaces in Between* and *Refraction*, which primarily feature white paint mixed with one color to create a range of values, *Migrant* utilizes multiple colors to expand a composition's valency and enhance its depth. These paintings manifest a hypnotizing, Rothko-like energy, while also demonstrating Frank's emphatic engagement with the passage of time and the interceding moments that shape our world.

Bernadette Jiyong Frank was born into a Korean family in Tokyo, Japan, in 1964. She moved to the San Francisco Bay Area as a young teenager and then to Los Angeles, where she later studied at the Otis Art Institute of Parson School of Design and the nearby Art Center College of Design in Pasadena. Her work has been exhibited across the United States and Germany and has been acquired by the Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento. This is her second solo exhibition at the Dolby Chadwick Gallery.

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Bernadette Jiyong Frank

b. 1964 Tokyo, Japan

EDUCATION

- 1988 Art Center College of Design, Continuing Education in Communication Art, Pasadena, CA,
- 1987 Otis Art Institute of Parsons School of Design, Los Angeles, CA

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 Time Shadow, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2018 Migrant, Bait Al Salmaniya Cultural Center, Art in Embassies Cultural Exchange Program, Manama, Bahrain
- 2015 Spaces in Between, Galerie Beate Bernst, Augsburg, Germany
- 2014 Spaces In Between, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2012 Jiyong-New Work, 425 Market St. (Courtesy of Dolby Chadwick Gallery), San Francisco, CA
- 2011 Bernadette Jiyong Frank, Triangle Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2009 Color Spectrum, Carnegie Institution for Sciences, Stanford, CA

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 Relics for the Future, NIAD Art Center, Richmond, CA
Breaking Through, US Embassy Dhaka, Bangladesh
- 2018 Art in Embassies Exhibition, US Embassy Manama Bahrain
Here and Now, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Geometric & Kinetic, Nicholson Art Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2017 Black Box, Boeckercontemporary on Tour, Kuenstlerhaus Saar, Saarbruecken, Germany, La 'S' Grand Atelier, Vielsalm Belgium, the Faux Mouvement, Centre d'art contemporain, Metz France, Casino Luxemburg, Forum d'art contemporain, Luxemburg
Artist as Subject: 20th Anniversary Celebration, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2016 every which way, Galerie Beate Berndt, Augsburg, Germany
Pairings, Curated by Jennifer Bethke, Sonoma Valley Museum of Art, Sonoma, CA
- 2015 Summer National Juried Exhibition, Juror: Nancy Meyer, Curatorial Assistant at LACMA, Marin Museum of Contemporary Art, Novato, CA
- 2014 FISSION: Sid Garrison and Bernadette Jiyong Frank , Gensler, SF, CA
New Artist Preview, Melissa Morgan Fine Art, Palm Desert, CA
Group Show, Melissa Morgan Fine Art, Palm Desert, CA
Crocker Art Museum Art Auction Exhibition, Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA
Inspire Artists Who Inspire You , Pro Arts Gallery, Oakland, CA
- 2013 Annual Art Exhibition and Auction , San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, San Jose, CA
Tallahassee International , Museum of Fine Arts, Tallahassee, FL (catalog)
- 2012 Point of No Return, Juror: Hesse McGraw, Chief Curator at Bemis Center for

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- Contemporary Arts, Southern Exposure, San Francisco, CA
New Images Photography Awards, Gallery Photographica, Juror Rose Marasco,
Distinguished Professor of Art, University of Southern Maine
- 2011 Art for AIDS, The Galleria at the San Francisco Design Center, San Francisco, CA
Marking Time, Liquid Spaces Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2010 Aqua Miami Art Fair, Stephanie Breitbard Fine Arts, Mill Valley, CA (December)
The 49th Anniversary Show – Present, Triangle Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Magical Thinking, Judy Saslow Gallery, Chicago, IL
Old Friends-New Faces IV, Triangle Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2009 Pro Arts 35th Box Art Auction, Pro Arts Gallery, Oakland, CA
- 2008 New Visions 2008, Juried Group Show, Jurors: Lucinda Barnes and
Karen Tsujimoto, Pro Arts Gallery, Oakland, CA

PUBLIC ART

- 2018 SF Arts Commission, Fire Station #5, San Francisco, CA
- 1995 Mural Project for a Recreational Area, Ana Kolleg Boarding School, Augsburg, Germany
- 1993 Mural Work for a Bus Station by the Waterfront, Whangarei Arts Commission, Whangarei,
New Zealand

PUBLICATIONS & REVIEWS

- 2020 Fall in Love With These Nine Works of Art During Coronavirus Shutdown, Jonathan
Curiel, SF Weekly, April 2020
- 2018 Art in Embassies Exhibition Catalog, US Embassy Manama Bahrain
The Visuals that speak Endless, Interview with Weekender Bahrain, Fall 2018
The Wisdom of Uncertainty, Tricycle Magazine: The Buddhist Review, Fall 2018
Elle Décor, March 2018
New American Paintings, Past Featured Artist Supplement, February/March
- 2017 Is San Francisco America's New Art Capital? - Featured Artist, Jonathan Curiel,
Celebrated Living by American Airlines, March/April 2017
Eine Galeristin packt aus, Alois Knoller, Augsburger Allgemeine, January 2017
- 2015 New American Paintings #121
Meditatives Betrachten, Iacov Grinberg, A3Kultur Issue #11, November
Ihre Malerei Speichert das Licht, Alois Knoller, Augsburger Allgemeine, September
SFC&G Magazine (cover), June/July issue
- 2014 Mathematical Formulas Meld with Abstract Paintings, Jonathan Curiel, SF Weekly, June
3D – Definitive Design & Décor Magazine
- 2013 28th Tallahassee International Exhibition Catalog, FSU Museum of Fine Arts, Tallahassee,
FL
Luxe Interiors + Design Magazine, Volume 11, Issue 2
New American Paintings #103

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- 2012 House Beautiful, September Issue
- 2011 Art Basel Miami Beach 2010, Pendulum Art News
- 2010 A Guide to Open Studios, Amber Adrian, 7x7, San Francisco, CA
Old Friends-New Faces at Triangle Gallery, Frank Cebulski, The Examiner, San Francisco, CA
- 2009 Studio Visit Magazine, Volume 5, Boston, MA
- 2008 Studio Visit Magazine, Volume 3, Boston, MA
- 1993 "Visitor's Fishy Reminder", Whangarei Journal, Whangarei, New Zealand

AWARDS

- 2017 Finalist, SFO International Terminal Boarding Area A, SF Arts Commission, San Francisco, CA
- 2016 Public Art Commission, Fire Station #5, SF Arts Commission, San Francisco, CA
- 2013 Presidential Fellowship, Anderson Ranch Arts Center, CO
Nominee, 2 x 2 Solos, Pro Arts Gallery, Oakland, CA
- 2012 New Images Photography Awards, Silver Medal, Juror: Rose Marasco, San Francisco, CA

COLLECTIONS

- The Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock, AR
- Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, Monterey, CA
- The Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA
- The Hyatt regency, Boston, MA
- Mark Cavagnero Associates Architects, San Francisco, CA
- Triton Museum of Art, Santa Clara, CA