

# DOLBY CHADWICK GALLERY

**Jenifer Kent**

*Hyperspace*

July 9—August 29, 2015

Dolby Chadwick Gallery is honored to announce an exhibition of new works by the artist Jenifer Kent. Kent draws on a wide range of inspiration for her drawings, which creatively merge aspects of Minimalism, Conceptualism, and Expressionism. The myriad small markings she makes in black ink on white clayboard coalesce into networked, radial forms reminiscent of organic and biological structures, while also moving well beyond such references. They cull from scientific drawings, the almost infinitesimal textural variances in master etchings, the mirrored unfolding of interrelated micro and macro processes. They render the invisible visible, articulating three-dimensional space in unexpected, meditative ways and revealing the passage of time and space through the evidence of their exacting, iterative process.

Kent's works are firmly rooted within the Minimalist tradition, and strong parallels can be observed, in particular, with Agnes Martin's interest in monochromy, pattern, precision, and systemicity. Also at play are ties to artists who straddle Minimalism and Conceptual Art, such as Agnes Denes, who explores the shifting matrices of space, and Mel Bochner, who experiments with texture and accumulation. Kent, in light of this emphasis on space and accumulation, often thinks of her works as sculptural and looks to sculptors like Ruth Asawa, Lee Bontecou, and Eva Hesse for inspiration. The depth of the clayboard augments these affinities to sculpture by allowing the works to sit away from the wall, both hovering and projecting in ways drawing typically cannot.

All of the works are visually highly expressive, as the markings erupt from a central source of energy, and, occasionally, from multiple nuclei scattered across the clayboard's matte surface. While previous works exhibit an ardent solidity of form, newer works, such *Flashpoint* (2014) and *Vanishing Point* (2014), introduce moments of pause—manifested as empty space—that disrupt the centrifugal motion. *Intersection* (2014) pushes this aesthetic even farther by galvanizing a different type of energy altogether. Within the bounds of a circular shape, lines ping pong back and forth between the form's circumference, occasionally dematerializing when they intersect vacuums of what can be thought of as "paused time," which also manifest as circular forms. Interestingly, it is the negative space of the converging lines themselves that gives these moments their shape. "Surrounded by such speed and violence," Kent explains, alluding in part to today's hyper-technological, fast-moving world, "these drawings are my way to slow it all down and see things a mark at a time."

Jenifer Kent earned her BFA from Rutgers University in 1994 followed by her MFA from Mills College, Oakland, in 1999. Having exhibited extensively across the West Coast of the United States, Kent has also been the recipient of numerous prestigious awards and residencies. This will be her first solo exhibition at the Dolby Chadwick Gallery.

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## Jenifer Kent

b. 1971, Somerville, New Jersey

### EDUCATION

- 1999 MFA, Mills College, Oakland, CA  
1994 BFA, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2015 *Hyperspace*, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
2004 *Marked & Bound*, Bryant Street Gallery, Palo Alto, CA  
2001 *Drawings: Accumulations*, Davis Art Center, Davis, CA

### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2015 *Drawing Discourse: Contemporary Drawing* (juried), UNC Asheville, NC  
*Lucid Arts Residency Exhibition*, Gallery Route One, Point Reyes Station, CA  
2011 *Black and White*, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
*Outlandish*, Bedford Gallery, Walnut Creek, CA  
2010 *The Secret Lives of Teachers*, Jackson Street Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
2008 *Visual Aid*, SOMArts, San Francisco, CA  
*The Gift of Art*, Cecile Moochnek Gallery, Berkeley, CA  
*Twelfth Annual Art Sale & Live Auction*, The Lab, San Francisco, CA  
2007 *Teachers at Work*, New House Gallery, Ross, CA  
2006 *Supernatural*, (juried) 21 Grand, Oakland, CA  
2005 *Marking Motion*, The Lab, San Francisco, CA  
2003 *Post-Postcard*, The Lab, San Francisco, CA  
*Introductions South*, San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, San Jose, CA  
2002 *Deep Seeded*, public installation, Oakland, CA  
*2-2002*, Nexus Art Gallery, Berkeley, CA  
2000 *Small Works*, Cecile Moochnek Gallery, Berkeley, CA  
*Women Consuming, Women Consumed*, MatrixArts Gallery, Sacramento, CA  
*Small is Beautiful*, Berkeley Art Center, Berkeley, CA  
1999 *Recent MFA Graduates*, Mills Building, San Francisco, CA  
*Mills College MFA*, Mills College Art Museum, Oakland, CA  
*Introductions*, Cecile Moochnek Gallery, Berkeley, CA  
1996 *Members Showcase*, Art Not Terminal Gallery, Seattle, WA  
1994 *Mason Gross School of the Arts BFA*, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ  
1993 *Off the Wall*, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

### PUBLICATIONS

- 2015 *New American Paintings*, #115, Pacific Coast Issue.

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- 2015 *Drawing Discourse Contemporary Drawing: UNC Asheville*
- 2014 *Elevenelevens Journal*, Issue 17, Winter.
- 2013 Thich Nhat Hanh. *Moments of Mindfulness*, cover and illustrations, April.
- 2010 "SFUHS Gallery, Secret Lives of Teachers," *The Stark Guide*, 22 March.  
Stark, Marianna. "The Secret Lives of Teachers", *The UHS Journal*, Spring.
- 2006 Harmanci, Reyhan. "Art & Science," *San Francisco Chronicle*, 31 August.
- 2001 Elsasser, B. Arts & Culture, *Sacramento Digitalcity.com*, 18 July.  
Elsasser, B. "Clear on the Concept," *Sacramento News & Review*, 26 July.  
Mantay, M. "Window into an Artistic Soul," *The Davis Enterprise*, 19 July.

## HONORS & AWARDS

- 2014 Lucid Arts Foundation Residency, Inverness, CA
- 2012 Kala Art Institute Residency, Berkeley, CA
- 2012 SFUHS Sabbatical
- 2008 "Site Specific Art: Site Santa Fe Biennial & Marfa, Texas", SFUHS Sabbatical
- 2004 Contemporary Painting in NYC, SFUHS Educational Grant, San Francisco, CA.
- 1998-1999 Graduate Art Alumnae Scholarship, Mills College, Oakland, CA.
- 1998-1999 Graduate Art Teaching Assistantship, Mills College, Oakland, CA.
- 1997-1998 Graduate Art Alumnae Scholarship, Mills College, Oakland, CA.