

MATTEAWAN GALLERY

Patricia Satterlee: Gloria

October 12 – November 2, 2013

Opening Reception Saturday, October 12, 6-9 pm

Matteawan Gallery is pleased to present *Gloria*, an exhibition of paintings by Patricia Satterlee from her series of the same name. The exhibition runs through November 2, 2013. In Satterlee's paintings, a hard-edged central form is placed on a background that alternates between solid gray and an intricately layered field of color. The imagery in the *Gloria* series evokes the female body, but it is primarily abstract. There are a few basic shapes: the head-like shape with four round protrusions, the torso with thin arms/ head with pigtails, and the hourglass shape suggesting a curvy female torso. The figures are playful, humorous, and alien, but at the same time familiar.

In *Gloria 10*, for example, the shape with four round protrusions is on a flat, dark background. The interior is an open vista of light blue and orange that has been worn away and suggests a window, a sky, another place and time. In this work, as with the rest of the series, there is a powerful dichotomy between the solid dark shape and the light and airy, dense and complex blue and orange paint. The viewer's gaze moves between background and foreground, between flatness and vast openness. The heavy layering of the surface creates a sense of history and memory. Satterlee's paintings are truly enigmatic and are to be studied carefully, for there is much to be seen and learned.

Brooklyn writer and artist Paul D'Agostino has written of Satterlee's work: "Extraction, exhumation, excavation. Patricia Satterlee's most recent bodies of abstract paintings, such as those in her *Gloria* series, quite readily invoke such concepts and words. Nonetheless, 'recollection' might here be a more ductile, more conceptually keystone term. With regard to process, Satterlee's works are at once recollections and re-collectings; they recall one another via nuanced re-engenderings, and new iterations, serialized or not, serve to deepen and extend this ever-expanding corpus of embedded yet reconjurable memories. Her formal layerings, transmutations and revelations are thus a sort of collective unconscious unto themselves. ... Spending time with Patricia Satterlee's art is a pleasure for many of the senses. Her pictorial melodies and movements are extended moments to be lived, absorbed, remembered. Like a round of sweet laughter on a sunny morning, in a bedroom. Like an impromptu waltz on a wet beach, at dawn."¹

Patricia Satterlee works in Brooklyn, NY. She has shown frequently in New York as well as nationally and internationally. She has had solo shows at Norte Maar in Brooklyn, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Washington, DC, The Kitchen, NYC, and Watkins Gallery at American University in Washington, DC. Satterlee has been included in group exhibitions in recent years at Parallel Arts, Centotto, Phatory, CollectiCo, Valentine Gallery, and the New York Center for Art and Media Studies, as well as Salon Zurcher in Paris. She has an MFA from American University and received a BFA from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

¹ From "Patricia Satterlee: Formal Harmonies, Pictorial Memories"