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'Formations—Bloom'

Virginia Katz

Anastacia Grenda

4/20/2011

See It

By appointment at her Tustin studio; in a June solo show at Ruth Bachofner Gallery in Santa Monica, which represents her; and in a summer group show at Irvine Fine Arts Center. vkatzart@aol.com, virginiakatz.com.

Background

Houston, we have a piece of abstract art. Katz says she refers to satellite images she receives daily online from NASA, plus aerial views and ground-level observations, to explore how man and nature shape the environment. "My focus is land and its pattern formations. Reading these patterns informs our interpretation and perceptions of our world and our place in it."

Creation

Katz glues foil on an acrylic sheet, pushing it to create line and texture. It's shipped to a large press in Santa Fe, where it's inked or painted. Katz makes a print by pressing the image onto a painted paper called a monoprint. Back at her studio, she enhances the print with several media—in this case, colored pencil, pastel, and gouache.



Inspiration

Katz treasures the outdoors, whether it's local beaches or the woods of upstate New York, where she was raised. "As an undergraduate, I studied philosophy. It provides me with a logical framework from which to translate my observations; my graduate studies in art give me the skills to make my observations into an art form."

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