

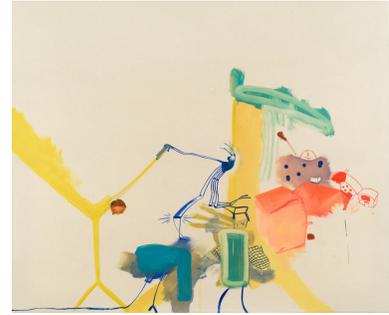
3 0 3 G A L L E R Y

For Immediate Release

SUE WILLIAMS

March 2 – April 14, 2017

Opening reception Thursday, March 2, 6 – 8 pm



303 Gallery is proud to present our tenth exhibition of new paintings by Sue Williams.

Coming to prominence during the post-Reagan malaise of the early 1990s, Sue Williams belongs to a generation of New York artists who both directly and indirectly critiqued America's patriarchic society and art world. Unleashing virulent strains of post-traumatic reckoning with ideas of power, womanhood, and systems of oppression, Williams' raison d'être of the time could be summed up in the title of one of her best-known paintings, "The Art World Can Suck My Proverbial Dick." As her work developed, images of the body were stretched and contorted into gestural thumps within ironically phlegmatic color fields, vestiges of receding memories and the psychological nature of time. By the late 90s and early 00s, her paintings had become almost completely abstract, dancing expressionist riffs on classicist techniques of the Great White Male pantheon.

Her more recent canvases synthesize modes of painting from her past work into kinetic explosions of color and form. Permeated with a physical attenuation to bodily function and spatial awareness, as well as the dark forces at work on the mind through the conscious and subconscious manipulations of government, media and information, her paintings are ciphers that begin to unravel the miasmatic psychic weight that we live under as humans.

In new works such as "Memory and Paint" and "Time Line," tornadoes engulf these fragmented symbols of consciousness, as reminders of the quaintness of domestic architecture, decorative landscaping and the banality of suburbia are swept up with file cabinets and skyscrapers - the unseen power structures that dictate happiness and comfort to the masses. They can also be seen as an attempt at expressing loss of loved ones through age and entropy, or slices of home and windows to memories, cozy or frightening. "Chicken Leg in Yellow" plays with traditional mores of rural family life, as fragments of animals and children frolic together in an anamnesis of blissful ignorance. Williams approaches her subjects with a tender repulsion, a seemingly contradictory conceit that has become a through-line in her distinctive paintings over the past 30 years.

Sue Williams was born 1954 in Chicago, and lives and works in New York. In February 2017, 303inPrint will publish *Details*, a new artist's book by Williams in an edition of 150 copies. Her work is represented in major museums and private collections worldwide, including the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C.; the Art Institute of Chicago; Sammlung Goetz, Munich. In the fall of 2015, her retrospective monograph was published by JRP|Ringier. Solo shows in public museums include Vienna Secession; IVAM Valencia, Spain; Geneva Center for Contemporary Art, and Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, Germany. She participated in three consecutive Whitney Biennials, and her work has been included in the museum exhibitions *Painting 2.0*, Museum Brandhorst, Munich (2015-16); *America is Hard to See*, Whitney Museum of American Art New York (2015); *Take it or leave it*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (2014); *Figuring Color*, The Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston (2012); *Keeping it Real*, Whitechapel Gallery, London (2010); and *Comic Abstraction*, Museum of Modern Art New York (2007).

303 Gallery represents the work of Doug Aitken, Valentin Carron, Hans-Peter Feldmann, Ceal Floyer, Karel Funk, Maureen Gallace, Tim Gardner, Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster, Kim Gordon, Rodney Graham, Mary Heilmann, Jeppe Hein, Larry Johnson, Matt Johnson, Jacob Kassay, Karen Kilimnik, Alicja Kwade, Elad Lassry, Florian Maier-Aichen, Nick Mauss, Mike Nelson, Kristin Oppenheim, Marina Pinsky, Eva Rothschild, Collier Schorr, Stephen Shore, Sue Williams, and Jane and Louise Wilson.

303 Gallery is open Tuesday-Saturday from 10 am - 6 pm. For further information please visit us at www.303gallery.com or contact Kathryn Erdman.

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