

Robert Goodman, *Fog Machine*

Robert Goodman is a well-established contemporary abstractionist in Philadelphia whose work *Fog Machine* is now on display in our current exhibit "Dialogues and Correspondence."

A chimera of blues, purples, yellows, reds, greens, beige, black, and white meld together to make *Fog Machine* a work of vibrant and energetic spatial pockets, which meet and conflict with one another. The loose and free strokes on the canvas, measuring 40 x 72", makes for the viewing of this work to be extraordinarily mesmerizing. Goodman's application of the paint emphasizes the flatness of the canvas while also creating spatial illusions, calling for the viewer to question the depths of the work, both theoretically and aesthetically.

Carefully applying the brush to the canvas, parts of the painting appear to jut out to the viewer, experimenting with figure-ground relations. Trying to work through the painting and the possibilities of its meaning(s) clearly makes this work both a mental and aesthetic fog. The work of Robert Goodman offers thought-provoking experiences.

-Vincent Ryan, Seraphin Gallery