

CORKIN GALLERY

David Urban

Actual Fiction, 2007

Artist Statement

These new works on paper return to the kind of poetic abstraction that I have practiced for twenty years. The images have their roots in the lineage of Abstract Expressionist painting as exemplified by Guston and Rothko, and also refer to the early origins of abstraction, as well as works by Mondrian and the Russian Constructivists. The vocabulary for this body of work includes looping ribbons of line, the dramatic use of brushed ink and spray-paint, and an engagement with Chinese calligraphic tradition. What I am after in this work is a kind of radical impurity which ties all these disparate interests together. Ultimately, these improvisations in line and colour are meant to recreate a state of being; they signal both the dissonance and the poetry of being in the world.