



VIRGINIA BRYANT

BORN

San Francisco, 1951

WORKS

Troy, NY

EDUCATION

Coursework in ceramics, theater and dance, garment and commercial design and life drawing in San Francisco, Eugene (OR) and New Orleans.

MATERIALS

Acrylic paint

SUBJECT MATTER

Color, natural forms, the liquidity of paint and line as a form of visual dance.

INSPIRATION

Many life experiences, from picture books from the 1920s to art deco and art nouveau posters to dance and choreography. Bryant spent years as a performer, costumer and even a short stint as a choreographer before focusing on painting.

For more information:

<http://viriniabryant.tumblr.com>
www.stac.edu/amag

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

Like the work of other action painters like Jackson Pollock, this work can be seen both as an abstract composition and as the residue of an action. Bryant states that, "My subject matter chooses me as I work through the processes, structures and materials of this practice," and it is not consciously planned beforehand.

TO TAKE AWAY

These paintings were made after the artist moved from Florida to the Hudson Valley. Are there elements from both places evident in the compositions? How does a change in working environment affect the act of making art? How does it affect subject matter?

HOW COULD THIS RELATE?

MUSIC & DANCE

Musical structures and patterning are the starting point of many of Bryant's compositions. Early in her career, she worked as a dancer and choreographer and thinks of her brush as the stand-in for the body. Trained as a classical dancer, the gestural orientation of Bryant's paintings are outgrowths of early experiences as a dancer, performer and choreographer in San Francisco.

PHILOSOPHY

Bryant is interested in geometric structures and esoteric metaphors. Early readings of the Existentialists and Jungian psychiatry were formative, as were and are independent studies of comparative religions and their processes,

especially the eastern traditions. For this particular series, she would like this work to be a voice for a new paradigm with a more balanced relationship between male and female perspectives and societal structures.



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