

The Highlights - On Abstraction

That American Post-War Abstraction is now meaningless makes Abstract painting today all the more enticing an enterprise. Abstract painting has become an unattached signifier, ready to be rethought and re-contextualized.

In order for an abstract work to have meaning today it must be culturally/socially relevant and, at the same time, be dialectical within both the pluralistic art world and the tradition of abstraction.

While many artists since the 70's have deconstructed Modernism's myths and exposed Modernism's universalities as outdated ideological constructs, utilizing this mode of art-making today is like beating a dead horse (literally and metaphorically).

It is possible that one can now make an abstract painting that is neither ironic nor blindly traditional, though most paintings today seem to fall in one of these two categories.