

Habib Kheradyar at Linc Real Art

Linc Real Art's second exhibition is an exceptional one, featuring ephemeral work by Los Angeles artist Habib Kheradyar. Using modest materials, Kheradyar creates shrouds of color and mystery with echoes of Op Art, Pop Art, Minimalism and psychedelia.

These simple structures consist of thin, vividly colored translucent fabrics stretched over wire armatures embedded in wooden panels. The wire bulges a few inches in front of the surface, causing the fabrics to emit patterns, shadows and illusions onto the wood supports. Marvelous moiré patterns emerge and the works themselves seem to shift and change as the viewer walks around the room. These changes add to the sense of fluidity and flux in the work.

All of the works in this exhibition (dated 2000) were created with this space in mind. *Untitled (purple/red)*, *Untitled (pink/turquoise)*, *Untitled (silver/purple)* are all small- to medium-sized with the color combinations noted in their titles. The pieces are made up of two monochrome rectangles abutted against the other in a horizontal format. The shapes made by the wires mimic each other to constitute two halves of a whole. It is the pairing of the colors that is integral to the success of the works, to the works themselves. This duality, the tension between the two halves, creates a resonance in the room that is almost palpable.

Waves of vibrations emanate from the wire forms, oscillating circles and half moons: glowing, otherworldly, but firmly grounded by their materiality. Although the actual materials and not only light and space comprise the pieces, the works play with the illusion of space and light. In the largest piece, *Untitled (lemon/lime)*, energy reverberates and its echoes are seen as well as felt. A lavender rectangle appears in the viewer's vision after looking at this piece for awhile—an alluring afterimage securing the work's relationship to its Op Art antecedents.

These works are magically ethereal and visually seductive. Kheradyar uses acid-drenched color to produce a pop infused spirituality. Born and raised in Iran before moving to Los Angeles, Kheradyar's work perhaps alludes to the mysterious veiling of women's bodies that he witnessed as a boy, mingled with the vibrantly colored wonderland he found in Los Angeles. Whatever the intent or the background, a sense of mystery and mysticism does exist in the actual works themselves.

Reinventing painting is a popular pastime in our post-millennial postmodern world. Kheradyar beautifully breaks out of the frame, if not the framework. The only weak link, (please excuse the pun), is *Untitled (pearl)*, a small opaque piece lacking the luminosity of its radiant siblings.

—Amy Berk

New Work by Habib Kheradyar closed in November at Linc Real Art, San Francisco.

Amy Berk is an artist, writer and educator based in San Francisco.

Habib Kheradyar, *Untitled (pink/blue)*, 2000, fabric over wire on wood, 7-1/2" x 22", Linc Real Art, San Francisco.

