

rachel uffner

ARTFORUM

"Union Square"

07.16.08

AUTHOR: LUMI TAN

07.07.08-08.01.08 Taxter & Spengemann

In anticipation of a possible move to the contemporary art no-man's-land of Union Square, gallery owners Kelly Taxter and Pascal Spengemann stage a swan song in their Chelsea town house, as well as an ode to the promise of a fresh start in a space once occupied by Frank Stella's studio. Though inspired by a site of modernist history characterized by supreme flatness, clean lines, and open spaces, the exhibition is neither sterile nor reverential. Each work navigates between a certain severity and a natural intuition, and viewers are allowed only carefully dosed amounts of information, paralleling the unknown results of relocation.

Macrae Semans's exemplary sculptures use rough materials to invoke the flawless forms of Brancusi, and Devon Costello positions Josef Albers-like squares over tie-dyed T-shirts with edifying results. Jaya Howey and Gianna Commito's paintings, placed next to each other, engage in a sophisticated dialogue of controlled, layered abstraction. Josephine Halvorson's canvases, meanwhile, depict objects without centers, as in an image of the fringes of a puzzle-piece map. Her works find their echo in the black voids of Daniel Lefcourt's *Addendum VIII* and *Addendum V*, both 2007, which suggest left- and right-justified paragraphs of voided information that offer no trace of what lies beneath. Conversely, Andrew Kuo lays bare in obsessive graphs both his quotidian desires and the technical imperfections of his printmaking process. Sincerely devoted to the possibilities of what a change of environment might provide, "Union Square" takes its title literally; the show offers a communion of those who have internalized rather than idealized the tropes of modernism. It pays homage to the Square, past and future.

Rachel Uffner Gallery
170 Suffolk Street
New York, NY 10002

+1 212 274 0064
info@racheluffnergallery.com
racheluffnergallery.com