

CHEIM & READ

PRESS RELEASE

PAT STEIR MOON PAINTINGS & A RIVER

Thursday, March 31 – Saturday, May 7, 2005

Opening Reception: Thursday, March 31, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Cheim & Read is pleased to announce an exhibition of new work by Pat Steir.

Pat Steir had her first one-person exhibition at the Terry Dintenfass Gallery in New York in 1964 and has been showing nationally and internationally since that time including participation in several Whitney Biennials and Venice Biennales. She represented the U.S. in the 19th Sao Paulo Bienal and was also included in Documenta IX.

In MOON PAINTINGS & A RIVER the artist explores an idea of visual space that is at once flat and deep in her singular painting language. This exhibition will feature the monumental BLUE RIVER, a twenty six-foot painting on canvas in which an enormous expanse of blue is enclosed by vibrant red and silver. In the Moon Paintings, Pat Steir invents a dialogue between vast fields of subtly modulating color and singular, definitive gestures. The gestures and events in the paintings hover and emerge out of a mist of thrown and poured rivulets. This group is a beautiful and emphatic statement of Pat Steir's unique approach to picture making. In a recent interview Steir said about her painting:

“I'm (trying to make a picture of) something that wasn't there before, an impression of existing phenomena. I've always liked being an oil painter, attaching myself to the mythology and the magic of making something that relates to history, that has a history, an image of space that is simultaneously flat and deep. Making a line. If I were to draw you and draw your hair, I'd have to make a curvy line. The idea that that curvy line can then represent hair is breathtaking. I think, “oh, that's the most conceptual thing I ever saw in my whole life. The most abstract concept.” ... “that a line can represent something more than a line.”

PAT STEIR: MOON PAINTINGS & A RIVER coincides with two other exhibitions of Steir's work: Pat Steir: Drawings at Cook Fine Art, New York, March 7 – May 11; and Pace Prints Gallery, New York, March 10 – April 9, 2005.

For additional information please contact Cheim & Read by calling 212/242-7727, faxing 212/242-7737, or emailing gallery@cheimread.com.

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