

Hales Gallery 'Space Opera' 2008

JANE HARRIS

SPACE OPERA

Exhibition dates: 21 November 2008 - 24 January 2009

Hales Gallery is pleased to announce its upcoming show Space Opera, 21 November – 24 January 2009, new paintings by British artist Jane Harris.

For more than 15 years, Jane Harris has used the ellipse as the recurring formal motif for spatial and optical exploration in her work. Having the potential to be viewed simultaneously as two and three dimensional, the ellipse emerges enigmatically from a tightly controlled surface and the overall effect is seductive, yet restrained. Each painting is imbued with an individual character and elusive presence and with her introduction of metallic pigments, Harris has added more lustrous and reflective qualities to their surfaces.

Recently Harris has placed an even stronger emphasis on the spatial and optical qualities in her work. Stimulated by her move to South West France in 2006, she has found renewed pleasure in the relationship of surface to light.

As the exhibition title 'Space Opera' suggests, the interplay between and within each painting is finely orchestrated by Harris, through variations of the elliptical form, direction and scale of the brush strokes, tonal shifts and the dynamic qualities of the metallic colours. To appreciate fully the rewards of these paintings the viewer must experience them physically, perceiving at first hand the changes that occur through moving around the paintings and from the impact of light on surface.

Jane Harris has exhibited extensively, both nationally and internationally. Solo shows include Angel Row Gallery, Nottingham (2007), the Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, CT (2006), Southampton City Art Gallery (2001) and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York (2001). She has been the recipient of a number of prizes and awards including the Rootstein Hopkins Major Sabbatical Award (2004) and the Arts Foundation Painting Fellowship (1995) and has recently been invited to undertake two residencies: at the Josef and Anni Albers Foundation, Connecticut, USA and Two Rooms Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand,

both to be taken up in 2010. Her next solo exhibition will be in April 2009 at the Galerie d'Ecole des Beaux Arts, Valence, France.

Harris' work is included in many public and private collections around the world including the Arts Council collection (UK), Government Art Collection (UK), SAKs Fifth Avenue (USA) and Lieu d'Art et d'Action Contemporain (LAAC) de Dunkerque (France).

For further information and images please visit www.halesgallery.com or contact Hales Gallery on 0044 (0)20 7033 1938 or press@halesgallery.com