

Cleve Gray: Considering All Possible Worlds



Crane, 1990, Acrylic on canvas, 60 x 40 Inches

Loretta Howard Gallery is pleased to present paintings from Cleve Gray's *Considering All Possible World's* series. The artist began this body of work in the 1990's exploring the various themes that he unearthed for over a decade. Writer David Ebony elaborates on the work in his essay "Cleve Gray's Parallel Universe" printed in the accompanying exhibition catalog:

The series is clearly inspired by Chinese and Japanese calligraphy, particularly Zen painting. But Gray's gestures do not refer to any specific script or writing; they have no relationship to graffiti and exist wholly in the realm of pure painting. Some of the works allude to nature or architecture. Crane (1990), for instance, features a sinuous black line rising up through a horizontally bisected field of yellow on the bottom and light gray at the top. The elegant black shape could indicate a bird in flight or a towering derrick. The spare, hazy geometry of the background seems to bear an art-historical reference to his contemporaries, such as Mark Rothko or his friend Barnett Newman.

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