

Julie Alexander
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Artist Statement

My latest body of work, infused with my daily walks through the meadows and along the lake near my home, consists of small, easel-sized paintings that I soak, brush, and spray on raw or washed canvas. They favor casual marks with the help of string and pallet scraps. I'm drawn to the tall trees embedded in this landscape. They are connected to the soil and the sky. Their stately presence, their age and majesty exist with and due to constant decay and change. This is expressed in my work through the physicality of the paintings and happenstantic marks. They make for a raw spaciousness steeped in contingency.

Prior to this work I painted on larger, loosely hung repurposed fabrics pinned to the wall. They sag and buckle a bit, giving them a sculptural quality. As with my current work, paint was poured, sprayed, and brushed. Here, the casual marks included acrylic transfer from drop cloths. I continue my interest in the sculptural with small sculptures made of found sticks, string and painted fabrics. Influences for all my work include Phyllida Barlow's and Jessica Jackson Hutchinson's sculptures with their playful dense painterly physicality and simple at-hand materials flavored with the spacious presence of John Zurier's paintings.

Another aspect of my creative practice is curating. My curatorial projects focus on women artists whose work is material based and sometimes leans toward the sculptural.

Bio

Julie Alexander (b. 1957, Seattle, WA, USA) uses casual marks such as drips from drop cloths, painted string, or palette scraps on a field of paint soaked fabrics as a means of expressing her continued exploration of the natural surroundings found in the city. Julie

earned a BFA from the University of Washington. In the last 10 years she has participated in shows at Specialist Gallery, Alice, Soil, and Studio e Gallery, among other venues in Seattle. Additionally she has shown at Neon Heater in Findley, Ohio Border Project Space, Trestle Gallery, Imogen Holloway Gallery, and Bushwick Open Studios, among others in New York. She is a past member of Soil and cofounded Alice gallery where she curated many memorable shows such as The Edge and a Little Beyond, Bed Bath and Between and A Story In My Pocket which brought to Seattle Yevgenia Beras and Teresa Baker. Julie currently runs Snag, an occasional gallery and is a 2006 Artist Trust Fellow.

Julie currently lives and works in Seattle.