

ALMOND ZIGMUND

From March 16 through April 24, 2006, The Drawing Room in East Hampton will present an exhibition of wall installations and related drawings by East End resident Almond Zigmund.

Zigmund's work is inspired by her longstanding interest in pattern and decorative elements in vernacular architecture and the psychological and theatrical impact of private and public space. After appropriating architectural and textile patterns she finds in her travels, Zigmund modifies them to create silhouetted forms in bold colors that she uses to articulate space on the surface of a wall or on a white sheet of paper. In both cases the artist employs a flocking technique in which finely cut, powdery particles of fiber are adhered to a surface to produce a raised, velvety texture. Her compositions often involve intersecting planes that invite the viewer into a suggested opening. In some works the implied path is then thwarted or redirected by another perspective reference, or even by the reassertion of the flat picture plane on which the work is created.

One installation, *Yellow Fly (Primary in Three)* will occupy an entire wall, activating the negative space through the application of red and blue vinyl cut-outs and a mustard colored flocked masonite screen. The screen seems to swing open, like a window inviting the viewer to enter, but the space beyond is ambiguous. The shadow behind the window is rendered in a different pattern of bright red netting, a trick that leaves us wondering where we stand in relation to these illusionistic elements.

A smaller installation, *BlueFlyFade* also incorporates a raised cut out pattern. In this work the relief element of linked octagonal forms is painted in vibrant sky blue enamel that fades to pale blue as its receding form meets a patterned sheet of salmon colored paper that moves in an opposing direction. The artist plays with our perception of space and architecture in an effort to underscore our assumptions about the cultural meaning of private and public space and our subjective experience of them.

In her works on paper Zigmund combines a bright palette of gouache and pastel with areas of flocking to similar effect. The texture and dimension of the dramatic silhouetted shapes contributes to the powerful illusion that lends these works a dynamic impact beyond their relatively small size.

Zigmund received her BFA from Parsons School of Design in 1994, and in 2000 an MFA from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Since 1995, she has had eight solo shows and has been included in numerous group exhibitions at galleries across the United States.

For further information or reproductions, please contact Susan Papa at 631.324.5016 or info@drawingroom-gallery.com.