

THE DRAWING ROOM 66 Newtown Lane, East Hampton, New York 11937 T 631 324 5016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SHARON HORVATH

November 2, 2012 – January 6, 2013



In, 2012, pigment, ink and polymer on paper on canvas, 46 x 45 in



Tidal, 2012, pigment, ink and polymer on paper on canvas, 24 x 36 in

On view from November 2, 2012 through January 6, 2013, The Drawing Room is pleased to present an exhibition of paintings by Sharon Horvath, concurrent with a show of Diane Mayo's ceramic sculpture.

Sharon Horvath's sumptuous new paintings are inspired by the majestic expanse of physical space – land, water and air – which one experiences at the ocean's edge and under the sparkle of a starry sky. Even the rear view mirror has caught her attention as it offers a particular, shaped experience of space, landscape and the night sky.

Horvath's ongoing fascination with the nature of painted and real space has been enhanced by her experimentation with the expressive qualities of pure pigments derived from ground minerals. Painting in a milky medium she concocts from powdered pigments suspended in polymer, Horvath's paint seems to flow with little evidence of tools or preconceptions. Integrated within her painting and within a technique that is all her own, her ink drawings meander across the surface creating a lacy template of graphic detail.

Working both large and small, her telescopic explorations of visual experience bring her up close to the spray of a crashing wave in *Blue Dune* and *Blacky*, where the turmoil of elements roil in molten color. In her largest recent painting titled *In*, 2012, she invites us to reflect on our own planet, here a small turquoise orb, which seems to float in a thick red universe strewn with tiny planets. A white drawing on the face of the planet offers hope of human intelligence, data, or a diagram. With her love of the wandering drawn line, Horvath wraps us in lush color while she bends space, gently moving our mind's eye into virgin visual territory.

As these dazzling vermilion and lapis abstractions play out on a field of pigment, Horvath's distinctive process is an adventure both for her and for the viewer. Pondering *Look Back* and *In a Mirror*, the rear view mirror offers a whimsical shape and rich imaginative space for her to draw upon. No time is wasted while driving for this painter whose interest in the metaphysical world is rooted in her visceral experience of nature and art; the soft rectangular shape of her rear view mirror holds a still reflection of the night sky surrounded by the fleeting world.

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In *Blueberry Boat* we imagine being at the helm of a dream moving through a warm turquoise sea. *Pleasure Seas (after Elizabeth Bishop)* maps the undulations of color and light moving across the surface of the sea in a full immersion of subject and medium. *Tidal* is a curious composition of a surging red wave packed with a black, white and red drawing of a graceful male figure preserved as in a mosaic. The figure, wave, and sky coalesce in a radical integration of ideas and technique.

Horvath's new work brings to mind the exotic hues of mineral based miniatures from Rajasthan including the Hindu Tantric tradition with its saturation of pure color and a reduction to bold forms achieved through meditation. Still grounded in depicting a sense of place, Horvath has realized an ecstatic universe in these vivid paintings.

Sharon Horvath lives and works in New York City and is an Associate Professor at Purchase College, SUNY. She has received numerous awards including, in 2005, an Anonymous Was a Woman Grant, in 2004, the Edwin Palmer Memorial Prize for Painting from the National Academy Museum, a Pollock-Krasner Foundation grant for Painting in 1994 and 1997, and the Rome Prize, Fellowship in Painting from the American Academy in Rome in 1996. Horvath won a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship for Painting in 1992.

**Please note new gallery hours: Monday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday 10 to 5; Sunday 11 to 5
Closed November 22, December 24, 25 & 31, January 1**

For further information and reproduction quality images contact Janet Goleas at 631.324.5016 or
info@drawingroom-gallery.com.