



BRIAN COMBER | Artist Statement

“Unstill Life”

“Unstill Life” is the title I chose for my newest collection of dynamic watercolors, an outgrowth of my evolution as an artist into the most demanding – and for me, inspiring – medium. For this show, I’m using the traditional ideas of still life as a starting point for deconstructing my work into a new territory of dynamic abstraction.

Watercolor requires a sense of the immediate. Other media are more forgiving, but watercolor requires a discipline and confidence, a sense of decisiveness. As intimidating as that is, the rewards of the work is more direct. Knowing that each brushstroke is a commitment provides me with a sense of progress.

My approach to these works was to break apart objects, and force the viewer into filling in the gaps with impressions of their own. The positive and negative spaces of the pieces bring a sense of life and movement.

Painting for me is a good way to employ my strong sense of color. I think of luminosity, of glow. I employ techniques to emphasize that aspect of the art form. The flow between colors informs the theme of the paintings, and watercolor provides a distinct purity. Color in watercolors is the spine of the work.