

LOIS LAMBERT GALLERY

at Bergamot Station
2525 Michigan Ave E3
Santa Monica, CA 90404
loislambertgallery.com

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Contact: Lois Lambert, Director
lois@loislambertgallery.com
Isabella DiPietro, Assistant Director
isabella@loislambertgallery.com
310.829.6990

ALLEN HARRISON

Beauty, Inspiration, Abstraction

January 15, 2022 – March 12, 2022

Opening Reception Saturday, January 15, 6-9pm

SANTA MONICA, CA - Lois Lambert Gallery presents *Beauty, Inspiration, Abstraction*, the newest body of work by painter, Allen Harrison.

Harrison's artistic practice is ever-evolving and has encompassed several distinct bodies of work. Harrison begins this particular process by tracing Thangka drawings on acetate, cutting up the designs, and collaging them on his canvas. Harrison's interest in the Tibetan Thangka style is based solely on aesthetics as opposed to their traditional religious intent. Harrison honors these drawings by using the lines as partial guides throughout his painting, eventually obscuring the figures, allowing him to transcend their predetermined role or purpose. The Thangka imagery is never completely lost; it remains a swirling blueprint beneath the cloudscapes. Harrison regularly takes photographs of the sky from the roof of his studio and these images are what dictates the colors that Harrison uses as he reinterprets the sky. Allen sections the piece into smaller compositions helping him abstract from both the Thangka style and the landscape photographs. Harrison continues to layer onto his canvas building up certain areas and adding dimension.

In his painting *Hank*, Harrison uses symmetry to enhance the fluidity of his technique. A select skyscape photograph has been mirrored as his reference image, and when added on top of Harrison's Thangka drawings, the new work emerges with more dimension and depth.

Allen Harrison's career has spanned over 40 years with more than 30 solo exhibitions throughout the United States. Harrison is included in the collections of Frederick R. Weisman Art Foundation, Architectural Digest Publishing Corporation, General Electric, 20th Century Fox, Lowes Corporation, Bank of America Corporation, the Arco Collection, and Goldman-Sachs Los Angeles. Harrison is part of the permanent collection at the Portland Museum, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and the Byer Museum of Art. Harrison taught at the University of California Berkeley and recently retired from his position at Pasadena City College.



Winslow, oil on panel, 75" x 42"



Hank, oil on panel, 62" x 42"



Untitled, oil on panel, 48" x 48"