ArtHaus

For Immediate Release…

Maxine Solomon – The Fiction of Reality
Exhibition Dates: October 1 – December 23, 2015
Opening Reception: Thursday evening – October 1 – 6-8pm
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The Fiction of Reality – New Paintings by Maxine Solomon – Opens at ArtHaus

'Turneresque' may not be too grand a word to describe the recent work of Bay Area painter Maxine Solomon. She packs her canvases with so much aesthetic information that they generate on their own the sort of pictorial storms and atmospheres that the British master of the sublime loved to conjure. She, however, has cast off the last vestiges of figure and subject and gone for sheer immersion."...Kenneth Baker, Art Critic

San Francisco…The Fiction of Reality, a solo exhibition of paintings by Bay-Area artist Maxine Solomon opens at ArtHaus on October 1st, 2015 with a reception for the artist from 6-8pm.

This show of two related series of paintings continues Maxine Solomon's exploration of creating intensity and emotion onto the two dimensions of the canvas. Preston Metcalf, Curator for the Triton Museum of Art in Santa Clara, CA, states, "*Her work is pure visual poetry and as such makes the viewing experience a true reward."*

The Fiction of Reality, while advancing the layering of active brush strokes and painterly qualities, forgets the tortured scraping of the canvas in favor of more glazes and sends the work even more toward the abstract. As in all of her work, Solomon references nature and landscape although it is not immediately obvious.

The fiction of Reality, 58 x 22", oil on canvas

The Dark Is Not Empty, 40" x 40", oil on canvas

The paintings in the series*, Part of a Longer Story,* continue her signature textural surfaces while expanding the use of subtractive techniques, which increases the texture of the surface and exposes more of the under-layering. David Fought, artist/sculptor said *"Instead of smeared and scraped paint magically coalescing into a landscape – as I usually see them, I saw it as if she'd had that exact idea all along and just added paint. I think what I'm saying is that those abstractions of paint and texture are amazing. These babies aren't snapshots. They're Cathedrals."*

Part of a Longer Story, 30”x30”, oil on canvas

Maxine Solomon brings an interesting and varied background to her paintings. She has traveled extensively using it as a way of trying to understand our world and its varied cultures. During extended periods of time in many developing countries in Africa and Asia she was intimately involved with rural artists. While teaching, curating and exhibiting in these countries, she was also gaining both insights and inspiration. These episodes created some really interesting and exciting experiences.

In commenting on her work, Solomon says, *“As I work, multiple layers of paint create texture and movement on the canvas that lead me forward. It’s this dialog that determines the direction in which my general idea or sense or emotion will move. I find my own creative process reflected in Richard Diebenkorn’s words: “I can never accomplish what I want. Only what I would have wanted had I thought of it in the first place.*
My paintings often include active brush strokes and quiet glazes that, combined, depict landscapes surrounded by abstract imagery. This reflects the way I see the world, whether I’m hiking through a redwood forest in California, walking down a crowded street in San Francisco or Ouagadougou, floating down a river in Belize, or watching the sand dunes shift in Oman.”

The Fiction of Reality continues at ArtHaus through December, 2015. ArtHaus – 411 Brannan Street, San Francisco. Gallery Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 11am-6pm and Saturday, Noon-5pm. 415-977-0223 www.arthaus-sf.com