

LISA KELLNER

STUDIO

Precipice of Unknowing, 2022 - 2021:

My work is concerned with exploring the spatial concerns of memory, perception and emotion. I am interested in forging relationships between the physical and the intangible; conflating elements of architecture and inhabited space with the ethereal aspects of thought. On the canvas, various methods of working are combined together to achieve a synergy. A blending occurs; consolidating all into one.

I begin with no agenda or physical frame of reference, so that I might tap into something deeper within: being in the present with the work that's directly in front of me. Fully aware of my own lexicon of shapes, lines and brush strokes, I try to surprise myself, operating against the familiar and the known.

The paintings are made over a series of sessions where anything is tried and everything is permissible. My state of mind directly impacts the painting each day as I try to be fully present, knowing that I can never fully obscure thoughts, memories and world events. As the layers are built up over time, an amalgamation occurs blending various states of being into the final work. For me, these paintings reflect the true nature of humans. We are never just one thing, but a fusion of many thoughts, emotions, perceptions and experiences.

Purposely traversing the unknown, the juxtaposition and layering of marks and strokes become a field of pictorial space rich with sensory information. I am looking to define emotional space through the lens of the visual. Each painting serves as a compilation of moments, with an understanding of the limits of knowing and that I can never fully unknow.

The Structural Paintings blend the process of painting with constructed arrangements composing new ways of looking at the space a painting can inhabit. Hand cut and painted wood or drywall forms are merged with the paintings expanding the space of the visual plane. In these works, painting takes on a new element where light, shadow and dimension play a role.

The objective in my paintings and sculptural constructions is to build within each work an 'environment'; a vista formed on the basis of a synergy of contrasts embedded with human perception. In my studio everything is of equal value from the typical artist materials of paints and brushes to the objects I make and my own accumulation of waste. All serve to inform the direction of a painting or the structure of a sculpture.

