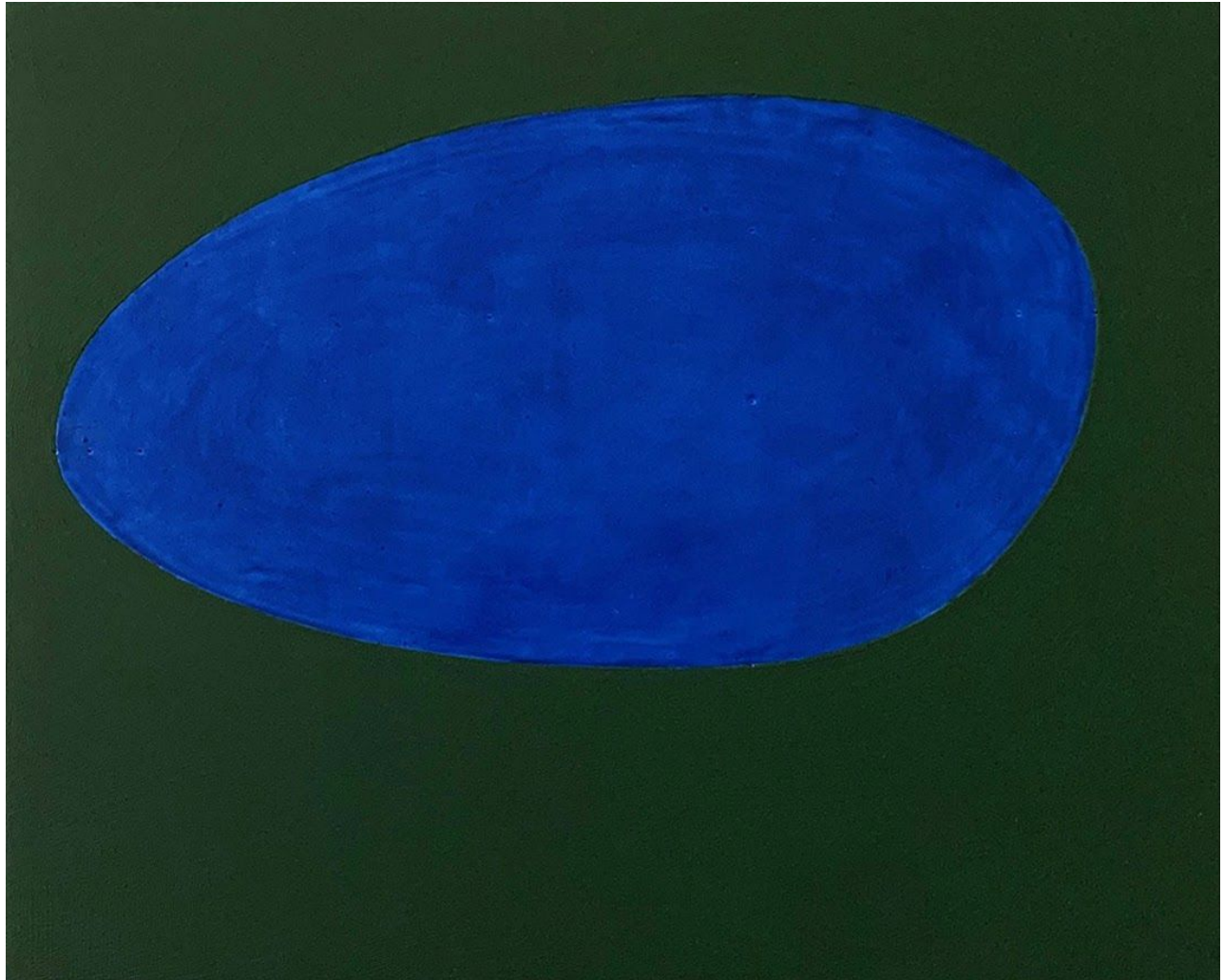


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Suzan Frecon, *Study for Blue God Verona*, 2016/2019, Oil on wood panel, 9.7 x 12 inches.  
Courtesy of the artist and David Zwirner Gallery.

## ***EFAbstract***

**Curated By:** Bill Carroll

**On View:** January 15–March 8, 2020

**Opening reception:** Wednesday, January 15, 5-8 pm

**Artists:** Clytie Alexander, Vicky Colombet, Sally Egbert, Suzan Frecon, Katinka Mann, Heather Bause Rubinstein, Suzanne Song, Dannielle Tegeder, Marjorie Welish

EFA Project Space, 323 West 39th Street, 2nd Floor, NYC, between 8th & 9th Aves.

Hours: Wed.–Sat., 12–6 pm [www.projectspace-efanyc.org](http://www.projectspace-efanyc.org) [projectspace@efanyc.org](mailto:projectspace@efanyc.org) 212-563-5855 ext 244

EFA Project Space is pleased to present *EFAbstract*, curated by Bill Carroll, featuring nine member artists of the EFA Studio Program who work in abstract painting. Each of these artists approach abstraction differently, speaking in a clear and highly individual voice. From the minimalistic style of Clytie Alexander, to the stitched-together baroque works of Heather Bause Rubinstein, the exhibition spotlights the range of abstraction present in the work of contemporary painters, as well as that of the artists working in the Studio Program.

Rather than an abstraction derived from esoterics, the artists in *EFAbstract* are inspired by the world around them: nature, industrialism, poetry and our own perception forms the basis of this work. Dannielle Tegeder is influenced by mechanical drawings she observed growing up in a family of steamfitters, while Sally Egbert's subdued lyricism comes from her sharp observations of nature. Marjorie Welish approaches her patterned geometries through a poetic lens, derived from her parallel writing practice. Katinka Mann's abstract shapes make use of subtle geometries to blur the line between painting and sculpture. Suzan Frecon's work focuses on the relationships between light, perception, and matter. The simple compositions of Suzanne Song's paintings imply the spaces we encounter in our surrounding environment, reflecting grey floors and white walls ubiquitous to most interior spaces. Vicky Colombet's work takes the abstract energy, topography, and sensibility of landscapes as a source of inspiration. Together, the nine artists featured in *EFAbstract* reinvent, reinvigorate, and expand the definition of abstract art.

*EFAbstract* is presented in celebration of Bill Carroll's ten years as Director of the [Studio Program](#) for the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts. The EFA Studio Program provides subsidized studios to over 70 members and fosters a cooperative community. Members of the Studio Program must be professional artists with an established studio practice. The members represent over 30 countries and a wide range of visual media and artistic sensibilities. *EFAbstract* represents this plurality of practice.

For related events, visit the EFA Project Space website at <https://www.projectspace-efanyc.org/efabstract>

## ABOUT THE CURATOR

**Bill Carroll** has been involved in the New York art world for over thirty-five years. He was the Director of the Charles Cowles Gallery in Soho, and the Elizabeth Harris Gallery in Chelsea. Bill has also worked in non-profit at the Dia Art Foundation, the Brooklyn Museum, the Nancy Graves Foundation and presently as the Director of the Studio Program of The Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts. He has curated numerous exhibitions that included artists Donald Baechler, Chakaia Booker, Mark Dion, William Kentridge, Philip Taaffe, and Kara Walker, among many others. Bill teaches a course for MFA students at Pratt Institute titled Art World & Professionalism, and has lectured at the New York Foundation for the Arts, Cornell University, New York University, Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bard College, Columbia University, Parsons, School of Visual Arts, and F.I.T. His work has been reviewed in *Art in America* and he had his fifth solo exhibition with the Elizabeth Harris Gallery in Chelsea in January 2019. In 2016 he had an installation of 56 small paintings, titled *New York: My City*, at the New York Public Library, Mid-Manhattan Branch.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**Clytie Alexander** was born in Lawrence, Kansas, and raised in Montreal, Quebec. After high school, she moved to Bangladesh after her father accepted a position with the United Nations. There, she studied dance and music, travelled and took photographs, and became fascinated with architecture. Back in the US, Alexander enrolled in Antioch College to study art and engineering, apprenticing under Max Mercer. After college she moved to California, where she cultivated a community of artists and thinkers, and began her exploration of light and space. Since the 1980s, Alexander's work has focused on the abstract. Alexander has exhibited worldwide, and lives in New York, Los Angeles, and New Mexico.

**Vicky Colombet** was born in France and educated at the Sorbonne. She spent her childhood traveling Southeast Asia and India. Eastern philosophy, Buddhism, physics, poetry, and philosophy, and Colombet's work is informed by nature, metaphysics, and topography. Her abstract paintings, works on paper, photography, and prints exist in conversation with historical art movements from traditional Chinese painting to Abstract Impressionism. Her meditative paintings reference the natural world by taking the abstract energy, topography, and sensibility of landscapes as a source of inspiration.

**Sally Egbert** has lived and worked in both East Hampton and New York City since 1982. She is the recipient of numerous grants from prestigious organizations such as the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, the New York Foundation for the Arts, and the Adolph & Esther Gottlieb Foundation. Egbert's work is currently on view in the exhibition *Downtown Painting*, organized by artist Alex Katz, at Peter Freeman Inc. at 140 Grand Street in New York City.

**Suzan Frecon** was born in Mexico, Pennsylvania, and studied fine arts at the University of Pennsylvania and École nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris. She is known for her abstract painting and watercolors. Frecon creates her own colors by grinding pigment into oil paints, giving her paints varying degrees of texture and materiality. She had been represented by David Zwirner since 2008, and lives in New York City.

**Katinka Mann** is a sculptor and painter living and working in New York City. She has been exhibiting abstract, geometric-inspired art in galleries and museums since 1965. She studied art at the Hartford Art School at the University of Hartford, and later began exploring geometric shapes through printmaking. Mann achieved this by cutting and layering prints in a hybrid manner, allowing her to delve into specific shapes. Today, the trapezoid serves as a mandala, allowing her to expand the possibilities of what she can draw.

**Heather Bause Rubenstein** was born in New Jersey and studied at the School of Visual Arts and the University of Houston. She paints on found materials, using linens, drapes, clothing and crochets found at thrift stores. Bause Rubenstein interweaves gestural abstraction onto sewn fabrics, creating densely-patterned abstracts that draw inspiration from a variety of art movements. She splits her time between New York, Northern Pennsylvania, and Houston.

**Suzanne Song** lives and works in New York. She received her B.F.A. from Clemson University in Clemson and the M.F.A. from Yale School of Art. Song has held solo exhibitions at Gallery Baton in Seoul, Korea; Doosan Gallery, Michael Steinberg Gallery, and Caren Golden in New York. She has participated in group exhibitions at Debuck Gallery, Mixed Greens, The Drawing Center, Smack Mellon Gallery. She is a recipient of the Smack Mellon Fellowship and the NYFA fellowship. Currently, Song is a member of the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts Studio Program.

**Dannielle Tegeder** maintains a studio at The Elizabeth Foundation in Manhattan where she is a member. She received her BFA from the State University of New York at Purchase, and an MFA from The Art Institute of Chicago. Her work has been presented in over 100 gallery exhibitions, both nationally and internationally. Tegeder has participated in numerous institution exhibitions including PS1/MOMA, The New Museum, The Brooklyn Museum of Art in New York, and Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago. Several of her works are in the Collection at the Museum of Modern Art. Tegeder is the recipient of several residencies and grants including The Yaddo Foundation, The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Studio Residency at Governor's Island, Smack Mellon Studios and Artist Stipend, The Pollock-Krasner Foundation, ART OMI, Omi International Arts Center, Omi, NY, and The Marie Walsh Sharpe Studio Fellowship, NY.

**Marjorie Welish's** works focus on the structure of difference. She poses competing colors and structures with each other, forcing the viewer to question which is true. Since the 1980s, Welish has been challenging notions truth and reality through her paintings. She has collaborated in Poland through a grant for the Trust for Mutual Understanding. She works in New York City.

## **PRESS INQUIRIES**

JP-Anne Giera, Program Manager  
EFA Project Space Program  
[212-563-5855](tel:212-563-5855) x 233 / [jpanne@efanyc.org](mailto:jpanne@efanyc.org)

## **ACCESSIBILITY**

EFA Project Space is on the 2nd floor of 323 West 39th Street. The building has an ADA wheelchair accessible elevator that provides access to the gallery from the ground floor. There are all-gender single stall bathrooms and an ADA approved bathroom on the 3rd floor. The space is not scent-free, but we do request that people attending come low-scent. Admission to the building does not require an ID, but you will be asked to sign-in. The closest MTA subway station is the Port Authority A, C, E stop which is ADA wheelchair accessible. Texts and programs are in English. Large format texts can be provided with advance request.

EFA Project Space is committed to nurturing an intergenerational environment and we encourage children & kid noise at our events. Please notify us of any accessibility needs by email to [projectspace@efanyc.org](mailto:projectspace@efanyc.org), or by phone at (212) 563-5855 x 233.

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**EFA Project Space**, launched in September 2008 as a program of **The Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts**, is a collaborative, cross-disciplinary arts venue founded on the belief that art is directly connected to the individuals who produce it, the communities that arise because of it, and to everyday life; and that by providing an arena for exploring these connections, we empower artists to forge new partnerships and encourage the expansion of ideas.

The Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts (EFA) is a 501(c)(3) public charity. Through its three core programs, **EFA Studios**, **EFA Project Space**, and **EFA Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop**, EFA is dedicated to providing artists across all disciplines with space, tools and a cooperative forum for the development of individual practice. EFA is a catalyst for cultural growth, stimulating new interactions between artists, creative communities, and the public. [www.efanyc.org](http://www.efanyc.org)



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