

SEARS·PEYTON·GALLERY NEW YORK·LOS ANGELES

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 22, 2018
Contact: info@searspeyton.com

University of Maine Museum of Art Acquires Jen Wink Hays Painting

Bangor, Me. - The University of Maine Museum of Art has acquired a painting by artist Jen Wink Hays. *Satellite Field*, 2016, oil painting on canvas, was acquired by the Museum for its permanent collection, which encompasses some four thousand artworks created after 1945.



Jen Wink Hays, *Satellite Field*, 2016, oil on canvas, 48 x 56 inches

The University of Maine Museum of Art's extensive permanent collection includes notable works by famed artists including Andy Warhol, Pablo Picasso, Robert Motherwell, Susan Rothenberg, and David Hockney, among others. The Museum presents between nine and eleven exhibitions per year, and is located in downtown Bangor, Maine.

The newly acquired work by Wink Hays will be featured in the museum's 2019 exhibition, *Summer of Painting: Selections from the Museum Collection*. This show will be on view at the University of Maine Museum of Art from May 19 - August 31, 2019.

Wink Hays, a Philadelphia based artist, was born and raised in Maine. Her current body of work is often described by the artist as an interpretation of the natural surroundings of her childhood growing up in Maine.

In her own words, Hays describes *Satellite Field*: "As with most of my oil paintings, the *Satellite Field* arose out of process and improvisation; a series of cascading, intuitive decisions made with oil paint and brushwork. This piece was guided in particular by a conscious exploration of contrasts in both form and color. I don't often paint with straight-up black and was very invigorated by it as a base for this painting. As I closed in on dark shapes with opaque white, the forms just had such an immediate character and presence. There is something about the density and spatial relationships within this crowd of forms that makes it feel like an active ecosystem frozen for a moment in time rather than a final state.

As an observer of the finished piece, I'm especially aware of the different types of forms - some soft, complicated and biomorphic and others more sharp, unmodulated and synthetic. Nature seems to

SEARS·PEYTON·GALLERY NEW YORK·LOS ANGELES

be taking over in this piece (or at least reasserting itself). Fleshy, biomorphic bits grow out of cleaner starker silhouettes. Within the array of forms I see new connections being made and new life bubbling out of the objects. They stretch and reach for each other. This mix of morphologies is interesting to me and I like the visual provocation it creates.”

Jen Wink Hays is represented by Sears-Peyton Gallery, a contemporary art gallery located in New York’s Chelsea gallery district at 210 Eleventh Avenue, and in Los Angeles. Sears-Peyton Gallery’s New York location is open 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information or to request further press images, please contact the gallery at info@searspeyton.com.