

GEORGINA HUNT : RETROSPECTIVE



33-34 Cornwall Road
Waterloo
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Private view 6.30 – 8.30pm Friday 15 June 2012
Open daily 1 – 7pm 16 – 20 June 2012

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This retrospective exhibition presents paintings by Georgina Hunt from her early work up to her most recent *Harmony of Opposites* series

After studying at The Slade from 1945 - 50 Georgina Hunt lived in South Africa for a number of years where she became interested in issues around gender, growth and latent energy and began to produce work that was more expressionistic and experimental. This energy was expressed in her paintings of the 1950s as a kind of explosive release in works that came about through intuitive impulses rather than any preconceived ideas. In the 1960s back in London she developed these themes and had several solo exhibitions at the Drian Gallery.

During the 1970s, when she was working in New York and meeting with other artists including Jules Olitski and Larry Poons, Hunt's painting shifted from a gestural style towards work more closely associated with the Colour Field art movement. It seemed to her that imagery usually told a story or imposed a representational reading on the work. She felt that any distinct or semi-distinct form, however seemingly abstract, would provoke an associative response. This resulted in large-scale, contemplative canvases that emphasised the visual and evocative power of colour, whilst liberating it from the constraints of imagery.

The paintings on show in the main gallery represent the culmination of these ideas in her series *Harmony of Opposites*; whilst upstairs a selection of her earlier work provides an insight into the artist's career and progression.

In his catalogue essay for her 1982 solo exhibition at the Camden Arts Centre, Guy Brett wrote that 'Aldous Huxley, in his utopia 'Island', ...imagined a peaceful regenerative room in which a painting was hung. Georgina Hunt's large pictures have just this kind of effect, with their stilling of visual tensions and associational imagery in a luminous presence of colour.'

Georgina Hunt studied at the Slade, London and at Hunter College, New York. She has received national and international awards, including the Lorenzo de Medici Award for Lifetime Achievement at the Florence Biennale in 1999 and the 21st century Association Prize at the Osaka International Triennale in 1993. Solo exhibitions include Winchester Cathedral (1999), Barbican Conference Suite (1998) and Camden Arts Centre (1982). Her work is held internationally in public and private collections.

To view images and for further information go to www.georginahunt.co.uk