

JOURDAN ARPELLE

ABOUT THE PAINTINGS

BLACK X SERIES **1998**

SIZE

Series: 12 paintings

Each Painting:

 Painting: 16 in. square / 40.64 cm. square unframed

 Framed painting: Floated in a special designed wooden frame:

 30 in. square x 1.75 in. deep or 76.2 cm. square x 4.44 cm. deep

MEDIUM: Acrylic, mixed media and pumice on wood

DESCRIPTION

The “Black X Series” of paintings on wood were inspired by the sculpture series entitled “Abstract Symbols Series”. The former abstracted squares and crosses disappear beyond the edges and confines of these boards. In this series, the artist manipulated space by using parallel lines receding to a fixed point to delineate space and to create a one-point perspective with a varying vanishing point. These severe, abstract paintings are uncompromised by color or object. Their silver and gray areas create ambiguity while the black areas provide the viewer with a means of escape. Through this tough, non-objective methodology, the artist succeeds in drawing the viewer into a totally abstract, three-dimensional world of pure illusion.

MEANING/CONTENT

The contemporary idea of zooming in from macrocosm to microcosm at will, through technology or imagination, inspired the artist to create this series of paintings. The sculptural idea, devoid of color, inspired Jourdan Arpelle to eliminate all reference to reality and to utilize structural hues of blacks and grays as pure form. The psychological model of introspection inspired the artist to emulate ambiguous space and internal space. The yogic meditative model of cosmic consciousness inspired the artist to “see from above”. Scientific theory inspired the artist to investigate, through visual and creative means, the concept of the black hole in space and time. The physical rigorousness of pure paint and matter inspired the artist to create a painting series of perception, illusion, and clarity.