

JOURDAN ARPELLE

ABOUT THE WORKS ON PAPER

BLACK SQUARE SERIES **1998**
SIZE

Series: 30 paintings on handmade paper
Each Work on paper

Measure 9.5 in. square / 24 cm square unframed
Measures 16.75 in. square / 47.5 cm. square framed
Framed in custom white molded fiber-board frame.

MEDIUM:

Acrylic, mixed media on handmade Twin Rockers paper
with a deckled edge The glistening quality of the medium
reflects the addition of Micaceous Iron Oxide in the paint.
Signed "Jourdan Arpelle" copyright 1997 diagonally on back
The Series Number and the number of each individual work
are noted in ink on the back of each painting on paper.

DESCRIPTION

The "Black X Series" of paintings on handmade paper were inspired by the sculpture series entitled "Abstract Symbols Series". The former abstracted squares and crosses disappear beyond the edges and confines of this pure cotton rag paper. 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 on paper. The sculptural idea, devoid of color, inspired the 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 this series of works on paper.