

JDJ

Heather Guertin

July 3 - September 11, 2021

JDJ the Ice House
17 Mandalay Drive
Garrison, NY 10524

Heather Guertin's artistic practice is grounded in observation, and the sensibility that a deeply imaginative expression lies latent within it.

The genesis for Guertin's newest body of oil paintings begins as a series of collages she creates from the pages of scientific journals, discarded books and magazines. Guertin uses these collages as a guide, translating the colors, textures, and forms from these found images into a pictorial language that she combines to ecstatic and exuberant effect.

Her mark-making throughout the paintings, and sometimes within one painting itself, can take many forms: a kind of textured pointillism, with dabs of paint physically protruding from the surface; broad-brushed continuous strokes of thickly applied, opaque oil paint that which create a sense of flatness; squiggly zig-zags that feel almost like glitches on a digital screen. The resulting paintings are a riot of color, form and texture, and their compositions depict energetic shifts in tension, space, frequency and rhythm, much like the Orphist works of Sonia Delaunay, whose paintings were a reference point for Guertin.

Although Guertin's paintings are abstractions, her compositions often convey a sense of recognizability —though not necessarily to their source imagery. Some compositions feel biomorphic, and others architectural. One may resemble the passing lights of cars on a freeway at dusk, and another looks like the marquee of an old theater aglow in lights. What we think we see within the paintings is a creation of our mind's eye.

Heather Guertin (b. 1981, Worcester, MA) lives and works in Red Hook, NY. She received her MFA from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Guertin is currently in a two person show at Kurimanzutto, Mexico City, presented with Galería Agustina Ferreyra. Recent solo shows include Brennan & Griffin, New York, Proyectos Monclova, Mexico City, and Galería Agustina Ferreyra, San Juan, Puerto Rico, and group exhibitions include Broadway, Chapter, Flag Art Foundation, and Bortolami, all in New York. Guertin has performed at White Columns, New York and the Carnegie International, Pittsburgh, PA. Her novella Model Turned Comedian with Social Malpractice and Publication Studio was acquired by the Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp in 2013, and her monograph was published by Hassla Books in 2015. Guertin's recent collages are included in a publication by [Bunk Club](#) available in July 2021.