



Barbara Davis Gallery

HEATHER BAUSE RUBINSTEIN: FLOURISH + FADE

OPENING FRIDAY OCTOBER 25TH, 2024

6PM - 8:30PM



Field Trip, Oil on Canvas, 72 by 60 inches, 2024

Barbara Davis Gallery is pleased to announce **FLOURISH + FADE**, a solo exhibition by artist **Heather Bause Rubinstein**. The exhibition opens **Friday, October 25th, 2024 from 6pm to 8:30pm**.

In Heather Bause Rubinstein's recent large-scale canvases, viewers are immediately confronted with a whirlwind of painterly events that are wildly varied, intricately intermingled, and alive with jittery visual energy. Gradually, from the initial chaos, the structure of the paintings emerge, revealing rhythms, spatial relationships, and a visual logic, only to dissolve again as new elements reconfigure the composition.



Field Trip, 2024 (Detail)

The impact of Bause Rubinstein's work lies not only in her virtuosic handling of paint but in her refusal to be confined to a single genre or style. Her compositions are too spatially complex to be labeled as figure/ground and too relational to be considered all-over painting. Navigating between abstraction and representation, her works are tied to nature and the tradition of landscape-inspired abstraction. However, her subject is not nature in a general sense, but rather a specific iteration of it: the garden. Her paintings are not literal depictions of gardens, but rather a re-imagining of what experiencing them feels like, capturing phases of life and the emotional charge that comes from both the experience of nature and the artist's awareness of climate change.

Painters and gardens have long shared a deep connection. From Monet's Giverny gardens to Bonnard's Le Cannet, and Joan Mitchell's Vétheuil sunflowers, gardens have provided inspiration to painters as sites of color, form, and contemplation. For Bause Rubinstein, who draws from these influences, gardens embody a balance between nature and culture, offering a space for both control and surrender. Just as a painter shapes their canvas, the act of tending a garden becomes a metaphor for artistic creation itself—a quest to assert control over nature, if

only temporarily, and to reflect on the beauty that emerges.



About Barbara Davis Gallery

For 43 years, Barbara Davis Gallery has brought groundbreaking contemporary art to Houston. Driven by her intuitive sensibilities and perennially fresh vision, Barbara Davis has championed a generation of significant contemporary artists. In the process she has challenged a generation of art collectors, both seasoned and aspiring, to see the beauty and value in their work through dialogs and panel discussions with prominent museum curators and artists from across genres. She has launched the careers of international artists such as Julie Mehretu, one of the most important contemporary artists of our time, and Andrea Bianconi, who has become an international figure in the contemporary art scene, having given Mehretu her first gallery exhibition and Bianconi his first U.S. exhibition. She was also one of the first to bring to Houston the influential names of Joseph Beuys, Kiki Smith, Louis Bourgeois, Jonathan Borofsky, Günther Förg, Allan McCollum, Gilbert & George, Chuck Close, Robert Longo, Sally Mann, Jenny Holzer, Sam Gilliam, Jessica Stockholder, John Baldessari and Elizabeth Peyton among many others. She brought progressive international exhibitions such as Leipzig Select, artists from the New Leipzig School, and exhibitions for Beijing East Village artists Zhang Huan and Li Wei. Barbara Davis Gallery was one of the first Texas galleries to be included in the influential and prestigious Art Basel Miami Beach art fair. The gallery's exhibitions have been reviewed in international publications such as ArtForum, Art in America, Art News, Flash Art International, The Art Economist, and The New York Times among many others. Her passion for exhibiting innovative contemporary art and her commitment to educating her collectors and the community has driven the focus of the gallery for 43 years.

Barbara Davis Gallery | 4411 Montrose Blvd | Houston, TX 77006 US

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