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EMMA TAPLEY, INVERTED LANDSCAPE II, 2009, OIL ON CLAY PANEL, 6" x 8" x 2"

**Emma Tapley: New Paintings
June 10 - August 7, 2010**

Washington DC – Hemphill Fine Arts opens *Emma Tapley: New Paintings* on Thursday, June 10, 2010 with a public reception from 6:30-8:30 pm. The exhibition will remain on view through August 7, 2010.

In the new paintings on view at Hemphill, Emma Tapley reinvents landscape painting with an abstractionist's perception of nature. Tapley achieves this by implementing a combination of techniques: altering the scale, vantage point, and angle of her subject matter; removing an object from its natural context; or magnifying its infinite details. These new works depict views of the natural world filtered through a window, reflected on water, or floated in space. Tapley paints in a style of realism that challenges her abstract compositions.

Tapley's practice of rendering the reflection of an object rather than the object itself references the use of the mirror--a technology employed and studied by artists and art scholars throughout history. Reflected on the glass of a window or upon the surface of water, the implied broader scene is reduced to a confined space, forcing a focused examination of a small fragment of nature. Ultimately, the viewer is transplanted from reality to a state of recollection or memory, a journey parallel to Tapley's transformation of a landscape into something abstract. Aesthetically seductive and visually challenging, these paintings engage the viewer in a multi-dimensional experience.

Tapley's paintings are meticulously constructed from layers of glazes built upon the surface of the panel. Minute details are rendered carefully with imperceptible brushstrokes. The paintings emerge as luminous and reflective in and of themselves, referring back to Tapley's notions of mirroring and perception.

Emma Tapley received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the School of Visual Arts and has studied at the Pratt Institute and the New York Academy of Art. She recently completed a residency at the Ucross Foundation, Wyoming. Her work is included in numerous private and public collections.

This exhibition is concurrent with *Mary Early: Sculpture*.

GALLERY HOURS

Tuesday - Saturday, 10 AM to 5 PM and by appointment.

IMAGES ARE AVAILABLE FOR REPRODUCTION.

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