

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, June 29, 2022

CONTACT:  
Elizabeth-Ann Spruill-Smith  
HEMPHILL  
434 K Street NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
202.234.5601  
elizabeth@hemphillartworks.com  
www.hemphillartworks.com

ROBERT NOVEL PAINTINGS  
July 9 – August 13, 2022

HEMPHILL is pleased to present the paintings of Robert Novel in a solo exhibition opening on Saturday, July 9, with opening hours from 12-5pm. The exhibition will be on view from July 9 – August 13, 2022.

Throughout the last decade, Robert Novel completed over one hundred and fifty paintings in a limited palette ranging from white to soft gray to black, often incorporating raw canvas or linen as a compositional element of the work. The nuance and rawness of the visible linen or canvas contrasts the flat application of pigment and the strength of the geometric forms. Novel's reflection on geometric abstraction and the unfolding experimentation of a single variation from one painting to the next brings a deep feeling of calm, and the repetition of visual motifs becomes a performance.

With a background in sculpture and a love for minimalist forms, refined architectural spaces, and modern design, Novel was influenced by artists of the Light & Space movement and the reductive qualities of the painters of the Washington Color School when he arrived in Washington in the late 1960s.

Robert Novel (American, 1943-2021) was born in New York City, studied painting and sculpture at the School of Visual Arts, New York, and printmaking at the Printmaker's Workshop in Washington DC. He participated in *Art Now 74* at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, where he collaborated with artist Robert Irwin on the installation of a site-specific work. The following year in 1975, a solo show at Hard Art Gallery in Washington, DC featured Novel's sculpture and video art, and his sculpture was exhibited at the Corcoran Gallery of Art. In 1976, he participated as a member of the Sponsors Committee for the opening of P.S. 1 in Long Island City, New York. Novel's work was exhibited at P Street Gallerie, Washington DC in the exhibition *Translation Not Required* in 2015, and at Gensler Architects, Washington DC in 2016.

HEMPHILL was founded in Washington DC in 1993. The exhibition schedule features modern & contemporary art in all media by artists ranging from emerging to mid-career to modern masters.

# HEMPHILL

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## GALLERY HOURS

HEMPHILL is open Tuesday - Saturday from 12pm – 5pm and by appointment.

IMAGES ARE AVAILABLE FOR REPRODUCTION.

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