

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | December 21, 2022



Ruri Yi, *Eq.012*, 2021, acrylic on canvas, 66 x 54 x 1 1/4 inches

RURI YI

January 14 – February 25, 2023

HEMPHILL is pleased to announce the exhibition *Ruri Yi*, opening on Saturday, January 14, 2023, with a reception from 6-8pm. The exhibition will remain on view through February 25, 2023.

Yi presents a basic unit or form inspired by daily life, urban space, and the natural landscape. The *Eq.* or *Equilibrium* Series explores the function of a single defined shape, deployed by the artist in marching arrangements where a grid of like forms is punctuated by contrasting colors. Yi has described this shape as a racetrack, and it appears as a capsule, neither flat nor three-dimensional. The elongated oval creates a sense of speed, suggesting an entity in constant motion, circles straining against their borders to fill all available space on the canvas.

Yi's vivid palette is alternated with compositions dominated by black pigment, where the black provides an optical metric to understand the balance of color throughout the painting.

Seemingly monochromatic application of paint defies an appearance of flatness, with colors placed adjacent to each other, demonstrating how a color can change the feeling of a space and fully occupy the visual field of the viewer. It is this field that concerns Yi – her purpose is to reflect the viewer's perspective and perceptions.

Ruri Yi (b. South Korea, 1969) lives and works in Baltimore, Maryland. She graduated from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (Philadelphia, PA). Her work has been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions nationally and internationally. In 2018 Yi founded Mono Practice, a gallery in Baltimore, Maryland. This is the artist's first exhibition at HEMPHILL.

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.

GALLERY HOURS:

Tuesday 12pm – 5pm

Wednesday 12pm – 5pm

Thursday 12pm – 7pm

Friday 12pm – 5pm

Saturday 12pm – 5pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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