



JAANIKA PEERNA: *EDGES OF WIND AND LIGHT*

September 18 - October 13, 2010

Artist's Reception: Saturday, September 18, 2010, 6:30 - 8:30PM

Dance and Music Performance by Jane Thornquist, David Rothenberg, and Umru X5 7PM

ARC Fine Art LLC is pleased to announce the upcoming exhibition, Jaanika Peerna: *Edges of Wind and Light*. On view from September 18 to October 13, 2010, *Edges of Wind and Light* is the gallery's first solo show of the work of Estonian-born artist Jaanika Peerna. The opening reception, to be held on Saturday, September 18 at 6:30 pm, will include a dance performance by Jane Thornquist, who will explore the exhibited works through her own choreography. Musicians David Rothenberg on clarinet and Umru X5 on laptop will enhance the dance with a sonic response.

The exhibition is comprised of wax crayon drawings on mylar, ranging from intimate, 5 x 5 inch squares to larger, more ambitious expressions measuring up to four feet on a side. Regardless of scale, the group of drawings, identified by the titles: *Air Dance Series* and *Maelstrom Series*, are a response to the motions of air and wind. An economy of line spontaneously, yet assuredly, echoes the swirling, energized forces of nature. Peerna writes of these works, they are "mappings of air movement in nature registered by my senses. They chart quiet and tender winds but also storms that have the power to destroy. There is beauty in the extremes as well as a hint of anxiety. The works are very immediate responses to my sensory data and also reverberate on a bigger theme of changes in climate." The simplicity of black on white combined with an intense energy yields a rare profundity and beauty.

In addition to the drawings on mylar, the exhibition will include a light installation, entitled *Quiet Storm*. According to Peerna, this large scale, site specific work is a "3D mapping of the (trans)formative power of light. Specially programmed lights are cast onto hundreds of mylar strips attached to a wall. The slowly changing light creates a feeling of an organism forever in formation. After longer viewing we get a premonition of storm in the shadow of the very slowly forming process."

Also included is a video, entitled *Lines of Light* from 2009. About this work, the artist writes, "I noticed a reflected light from a clear plastic folder on my wall. I discovered that if I move the plastic folder (mechanically) the reflection on the wall started taking new shapes. The shifting from one shape to another was pretty mesmerizing. I slightly altered the footage digitally to reveal the movement of light more clearly. Low tech is something that has interested me always: creating something out of nothing as in this video where found reflection of light is turned into an artwork with it's own life and beauty. Music by Marilyn Crispell and David Rothenberg from *One Dark Night I Left My Silent House* (ECM Records, 2010)."

In addition to the aforementioned video and installation, a floor video installation titled, *Void* from 2006-2010, will be on view. Measuring approximately two feet in diameter, this installation invites

the viewer to peek into the well-like window into the void, only to find an empty space flowing away from the gaze. Jaanika Peema was born in Tallinn, Estonia and currently lives and in New York. She works at the crossroads of digital and traditional media, often dealing with the themes of water, simplicity and silence in drawing, video, and installations. Her 2010 exhibitions include the Dorsky Curatorial Projects in New York, the Dubai Video Biennial and a solo exhibition at ArtDepoo Gallery in Tallinn, Estonia. She has exhibited her work extensively in throughout the New York metropolitan area as well as in Paris, Lisbon, and Rome. She has an MFA in intermedia design from SUNY New Paltz, and she has worked as teaching artist at DIA:Beacon and at the Visual Thinking Strategies project of the Soros Foundation.

ARC Fine Art is located at 3113 Bronson Road in Fairfield, Connecticut and is open by appointment. Further inquiries, please contact Adrienne Ruger Conzelman at 203 895 9595.