

**STEPHANIE WEBER  
CURTIS RIPLEY**

**NEW PAINTINGS**

**January 18 - February 25, 2007**

Susan Street Fine Art Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of new paintings by Stephanie Weber and Curtis Ripley, opening January 18 through February 25, 2007. An artist reception will be held on Thursday, January 18, from 6-9 pm.

Stephanie Weber's work takes the viewer on a meditative, intellectual and sensual journey. Her paintings draw their inspiration from nature and display an emotional intensity and pared-down geometric sensuality that recalls the 1950s school of color field painters. Although formally spare, Weber's work employ's seductive, nebulous textures and hues. Her subject is, in the artist's words, "*nature in abstract form.*" The quietly reflective surfaces of the honeycomb-aluminum panels that the artist uses as a support add luster to this paint layer. The merging of external and internal is evident in the skill with which Weber blends her formalism with expressive elements. Yet, while Weber's consistent use of flat, square and rectangular formats recalls formalist tenets, her aesthetic is neither a pure abstraction nor an exact description, but an architecture of the cosmos and, as she concedes, of the spirit.

Curtis Ripley's paintings often draw their inspiration from poetry and music and form a sort of visual jazz, exploring the subtle colors of a mood, the space of a moment. The artist uses gossamer thin glazes of paint to dissolve a sense of the surface of the canvas, so that one is drawn into the depths of the work. Gestures of line and color float weightlessly in this space. In this realm thick, resonant brushstrokes improvise with dancing lines and wayward symbols. While exploring notions of abstraction, the paintings often play with the premises. A line or a brushstroke may tease toward becoming a subject and ideas seem to slip away like solitary notes into the complex rhythms of the paintings. Speaking of his work, Ripley has said, "*I want to achieve the kind of clarity that moonlight provides. Not everything is revealed. Essentials are outlined. We image the possibilities.*"

For further information, please contact Luis De Jesus, Director, Susan Street Fine Art Gallery, 858-793-4442, or email [galler@susanstreetfineart.com](mailto:galler@susanstreetfineart.com).