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Richard Kalina

New Works

November 7 – December 20, 2003
Tuesday-Saturday 10-6

As a writer and critic Richard Kalina has expressed diverse interests, as evidenced by the subjects of his articles published in recent years in *Art in America*: Ralph Goings, Carroll Dunham, Jack Youngerman, Andy Warhol, Dan Flavin, Mel Bochner, Roy Lichtenstein, Tony Smith, Sol Lewitt, Joan Mitchell, Donald Judd, and the quilts of Gee's Bend. As a painter, and in view of his recent work, it is not surprising that he would appreciate the quilters' bold arrangements of color, pattern and material.

The new works are assembled of hundreds of pieces of paper – torn and painted – laid down on linen. Kalina organizes these scraps into squares and wide bands. The translucent colors are intensely bright with light emanating from an unseen but crucial white ground painted between the linen and the paper. No one part of a work has more weight than any other and the colors advance and recede against the picture plane. The natural, and neutral, color of the linen appears in cutouts and as a wavy border that anchors, compresses and further intensifies the rippling energy of the compositions.

The exhibition will include a selection of works from the past three years. His last show here in the spring of 2001 showed Kalina's shift away from biomorphic and organic shapes and back towards the intuitively organized systems that had previously dominated his work. In these paintings, Kalina challenges the repetition and variation of serial geometric abstraction to accommodate the effervescent buoyancy of pop.