



A i l e e n C h o n g

Brooklyn, NY

Artist Statement

My work suggests a dialogue about cultural fusion rooted in personal experiences and is manifested through abstraction. The intent is to establish these recollections in a visceral manner rather than overtly. My background as a female Chinese Peruvian growing up in Long Island, New York, has played a significant role in my body of work. The experience of these multi-cultural dichotomies and its customs and traditions with the values of American life brought a fractured sense of identity. The question of which side I identify with more has been a recurring issue. The majority of my grandparents are from China, but I identify with Peruvian customs and Spanish was the primary language spoken while growing up. Outside the household, expectations of dominant American culture built a divergent sense of self. My comfort level alters with certain situations that I am faced with and I find resolution in my work. Through my paintings, I am able to communicate a visual representation of my thoughts and feelings.

My intention is to abstract from ideas, feelings and emotions rather than concrete objects. For me, this is an honest and direct process for conveying the experiences in my life. I do not have specific images in my mind when I begin a painting; rather they are produced through an organic process. Metaphorically, they offer a visual pathway to understanding myself. The truth is I cannot recreate a painting. Each one is like a fingerprint of my emotional state of mind. They are immersed with emotions that I have succumbed to, which are defined by the color palette, composition and texture.

The process I developed fuses conscious and accidental methods of painting. Organic forms come naturally and create harmonious fluidity throughout the piece. I utilize the liquefied and unpredictable nature of paint by often increasing its viscosity. Gravity and surface variances pull the medium into multitude directions. I work in numerous layers and make conscious decisions about leaving parts visible, obscuring or covering up areas. Each step is dictated by the previous one as I proceed with adding and subtracting the oil paint on canvas, wood panel or dura-lar. Metallic colors are incorporated in all of my paintings because they bring richness and luminosity to the surface. I use circles and lines as elements to draw the eye throughout the painting. They either emerge or recede depending on how the paint is laid over them. The reaction between combining certain oil mediums is unpredictable and can manipulate how a piece turns out. It becomes a process of discovery which informs how I approach future works. The complexity of paint application and layering techniques offer the viewer a tangible document of the visual language which I am building.

Blue Gallery

118 Southwest Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64108

816.527.0823 voice 816.527.0826 fax BlueGalleryOnline.com website

Aileen Chong

Brooklyn, NY

Born: 1983 in Long Island, NY
Currently lives and works in Brooklyn, NY

Gallery Representation

Blue Gallery- Kansas City, MO
Stricoff Fine Art- New York, NY
Julie Nester Gallery- Park City, UT
Hallway Spassov Gallery- Bellevue, WA

Solo Exhibitions

2011 Sentimientos Tejidos- Stricoff Fine Art, New York, NY
2010 New Works- Blue Gallery, Kansas City, MO
2009 Un Sentido de la Meditación- OneTaste Urban Retreat Center, San Francisco, CA

Group Exhibitions

2012 Spring Group Show- Julie Nester Gallery, Park City, UT
2012 Two Person Exhibition- Hallway Spassov Gallery, Bellevue, WA
2011 Fusion- Two person Exhibition- Julie Nester Gallery, Park City, UT
2011 Affordable Art Fair- Stricoff Fine Art, New York, NY
2010 Blue Gallery- Kansas City, MO
2010 15th Annual Faculty + Alumni Fine Art Auction, Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA
2010 Toronto International Art Fair- Stricoff Fine Art, Toronto, CAN
2010 Stricoff Fine Art, New York, NY
2010 Affordable Art Fair- Julie Nester Gallery, New York, NY
2010 San Diego Art Fair- Julie Nester Gallery, San Diego, CA
2010 Aberson Exhibits, Tulsa, OK
2010 ArtHamptons- Stricoff Fine Art, Bridgehampton, NY
2010 Abstraction- Group Exhibition- Julie Nester Gallery, Park City, UT
2010 Mixed Perceptions-Three person Exhibition- Blue Gallery, Kansas City, MO
2010 Affordable Art Fair- Stricoff Fine Art, New York, NY
2010 Stricoff Fine Art, New York, NY
2009 14th Annual Faculty + Alumni Fine Art Auction, Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA
2009 Root Division, 8th Annual Art Auction, San Francisco, CA
2009 SFMOMA Art Show, San Francisco, CA
2009 Parc 55 Hotel- Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA
2009 Spring Show at Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA
2009 Buscando en la Oscuridad-MFA Thesis, Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA
2008 701 Chestnut Studios, Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA
2008 SF Open Studios, San Francisco, CA
2008 SFMOMA Art Show, San Francisco, CA
2008 Spring Show at Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA
2004 Student Fall Show at Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY
2004 Student Spring Show at Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY

Awards and Honors

2009 1st place Abstract category at Spring Show, Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA
2008 2nd place Abstract category at Spring Show, Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA

Press and Publications

2010 Form Emphasis from Fragments by Adelia Gadson- 7/20/10
2009 Artdaily.org- Top Students Attract Gallery Directors & Editors from Across the Country to Juried Exhibit
2009 SF Examiner- 4/15/09- small feature in the City Hearts section

Education

2008 MFA, Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA
2004 BS, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY

