

KWANG JEAN PARK

Resonance

17 November - 16 December 2006



2004.15. Oil and Acrylic on Canvas, 72x 61

For Immediate Release:

Kwang Jean Park's work looks deceptively simple. At first glance, one sees familiar geometric shapes such as circles, squares and waveforms, the rigidity of which she has softened. But closer inspection reveals layers of technical, visual and conceptual complexity as shapes and colors overlap. She has adapted and combined various printing, drawing, painting and collage techniques to create her distinct pieces. Park uses multiple layers of woodblock printing and then returns to the print with brushes, pigments and pencil to deepen and further enrich the image. Because of this meticulous layering and the use of oil-based inks, her prints have a unique tactile quality.

Conceptually, Park works in long series, sometimes for over a decade to explore a single theme. She has been interested in various philosophical ideas such as the Taoist Ying and Yang, light and space as well as mass and void. Most recently, she has investigated the visual representation of sound, after having said that "Rhythm is the quintessence of life." If sound had a shape, it might bounce, turn, wave, vibrate and resonate. However, once embodied in an image, sound stops existing in a continuum of time and begins to occupy space, becoming muted yet visible. From within the deep iron black ink layers, stony silence holds its breath and rests calmly. Then, as if from an unexpected source, vertical perforations appear here and there, reminding us of the intrinsic tension of a pulse about to resonate.

Kwang Jean Park was born in 1957 in South Korea. Her work has been exhibited in South Korea, Japan, Switzerland, Germany, Hungary and France. She works and lives in seclusion on the outskirts of Vancouver, Canada with her family. This exhibit will be her second solo show in the United States. She will be present at the opening reception.

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