

## NOLA ZIRIN: The Sound of Color

The correlation of sound and color is synesthesia, the process in which “one sense comes through as another.” Color is to light as sound is to rhythm, inspiring the work in conscious and subconscious ways. It is the mix of colors and the absorption of rhythm.

Kandinsky once wrote. “Color is the keyboard, the eyes are the hammers, the soul is the piano with many strings. The artist is the hand that plays, touching one key or another purposely, to cause vibrations in the soul.”

Rhythms trigger different emotions and a sense of color, leading Zirin to stronger red or a gentler blue. As music subconsciously drives the color use, and the abstract element of jazz draws geometric abstract in the paintings.

Nola Zirin’s skilled execution of the painted line that bounds the surface edge of her canvas, collapsing the edges repeatedly, masterfully. No other artist controls the edges in this soulful matter that indicates the life lived as a painter in constant revival.

In the exhibition, Nola Zirin’s painting *Framed Heat* features vibrant color, contrast, and gestural mark-making drawing attention inward to the frame. The contrasts are vibrant, and the reaction of tones and colors create poetic resonance. The color and sculptural dimensions of the paintings create optical illusions and sensations that stay with you, in a personalized symphony.

— Joy Glidden (she/her)

Founding Director

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Director

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Essay written on the occasion of the exhibition  
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