

A.I.R.

GALLERY

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tues-sat, 11-6

For Immediate Release

MIMI ORITSKY

Ronda and Pacific Shadow Series

October 9 – November 3, 2007

A.I.R. Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of works on paper by Mimi Oritsky. Graphite and gouache paintings and drawings from the *Ronda and Pacific Shadow Series* will be on view from October 9 – November 3, 2007 with an opening reception for the artist, Thursday, October 11, 6-8pm.

Oritsky's earlier abstract landscapes originate from drawings taken from an aerial vantage point and rendered in oil in the studio. In her new work, Oritsky brings the perspective back to natural eyelevel and refines the primary drawings. Keeping motion and changing vantage point a part of her process as she observes her subject from a moving train, level horizon, deepening perspective and right angles continue to be lost through her viewpoint. Oritsky explains: "When I am moving fast, the elements have a sense of urgency to catch up within the vast stillness of the airspace. In this sense, I come completely to terms with my environment to create a space structured by light and a surface marked by the rhythm of the moving air. The *Ronda Shadow Series* on paper is a culmination of my *Ronda* and *Ave* groups of paintings on canvas. It focuses on the quality of color in the shadows of both groups, and continues to translate the airspace between myself and the point upon which my eye is resting."

Using graphite and gouache to render the dusty, sun-baked, agrarian countryside of California and of Spain, Oritsky's palette is intentionally muted, a range of dry oranges, browns and greens. She layers paint, allowing it to dry between applications. She scrapes away areas until she achieves the exact colors and textures that make her surfaces as topographical as her subject matter. Ken Johnson writes: "Ms. Oritsky's swirling, blotchy compositions, effectively blend abstraction and representation."

An artist in the National Artists Program at A.I.R. Gallery since 2001, this is Mimi Oritsky's second solo-show at A.I.R. Philadelphia-based, Oritsky has shown her work extensively in solo and group exhibitions. Her work is included in several private, museum and corporate collections. She has received recognition through awards such as the Purchase Award to the Reading Public Museum and the Purchase Award to the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts/Arcadia University, as well as residence fellowships from the Millay Colony for the Arts, the Artists for Environment Foundation at Delaware Water Gap National Park and the Heliker-LaHotan Foundation in Maine.

For more information contact Gallery Director,
Kat Griefen, at 212.255.6651.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday,
11:00am to 6:00pm.

