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GEOMETRY AND SPIRITUALITY **An Exploration of Modernist Forms**

LINDA LEVIT

Paintings and Prints

February 17 - March 7, 1998

Linda Levit will be exhibiting her paintings and recent prints at the A. I. R. Gallery located at 40 Wooster Street from February 17 through March 7, 1998. Ms. Levit's abstract oil paintings were made between 1993 and 1997. Also included in the exhibition is a set of lithographs made in November 1997 at the studio of Hostrup-Pedersen & Johansen in Copenhagen. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11am to 6pm.

In the past few years Ms. Levit has exhibited her work in galleries in Denmark, Spain and was included in a traveling exhibition of abstract art touring museums in Germany. In New York in 1995, she exhibited her work in a two-person show with Cynthia Gallagher at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law.

While Ms. Levit's paintings are rooted in the geometry started by Mondrian and the Russian Constructivists, she is equally influenced by painters whose color and surface evoke a more spiritual nature, such as Mark Rothko and Brice Marden. Her humanistic paintings are lush and sensual with color radiating with light. The edges of her shapes are soft and uneven rather than cool and hard.

The repetition of a shape such as triangles, squares, rectangles or diamonds are used to create a feeling akin to the rhythm in music. This patterning refers to the history of patterning in art from Matisse and Picasso to African sculptures and textiles. Geometry and the grid, both powerful elements in modernist painting, have given Ms. Levit the freedom to explore the spiritual and sensual nature of abstraction.

Ms. Levit was the recipient of a grant from The Pollock-Krasner Foundation. She was also the guest editor of an issue on abstraction for the magazine, *New Observations*. Her work is included in the collections of Best & Company, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Reading Museum, Oppenheimer & Company and Readers Digest.