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Kingston Gallery
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Lines, Rhythms, States by Rachel Thern

BOSTON, MA, March 14, 2016 - Kingston Gallery is proud to present the solo exhibition *Lines, Rhythms, States* by Associate Member Rachel Thern. The paintings express iconic realities of the natural world, rather than literal representations of them, creating lustrous abstractions.

On View: May 4 - 29, 2016

First Friday Opening Reception: Friday, May 6, 5:30-8:00 pm

The exhibition will feature small works from Thern's x-axis series, and larger paintings that are influenced by her work at a natural history museum. The x-axis series consists of nine square paintings hung in a grid. Thern riffed on how challenging it is to work with a square composition without bisecting it with a line. The lines she added either become graphs or horizons, and she expands on both these variants with each panel.

The imagery in all of Thern's paintings is rooted in sketches made with natural gestures that form curved lines and rounded forms. Through repetition and interaction, individual parts become an emergent pattern. Thern said, "working at a natural history museum, the bones, fossil plants and invertebrates, and geological displays of sediments all end up inspiring my content, though not in a literal manner." The works may also reference underwater scenes, cosmic expanses, and physics.

Last year, Thern transitioned from working in oil pastel and acrylic-based ink to oil painting, a medium that had dominated her earlier art. The shift influenced her technique: for example, she balances spontaneity with systematic additive and subtractive layers, a method developed when using oil pastels. The results integrate process and recollection to conjure liminal fields of pattern and line that radiate with potent colors.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Rachel Thern was born in Philadelphia and grew up on Long Island, New York. She studied for two years at the Maryland Institute College of Art and then completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts at the State University of New York, University at Buffalo where she also received a BA in Psychology and a Master's Degree in Library and Information

Science. She has spent time living in San Diego, California, and Baltimore, Maryland. She currently lives in Western Massachusetts.

Also at Kingston Gallery in May: Julie Graham in the Members' Gallery. First Friday Opening Reception: May 6, 5:30-8:00 pm.

Kingston Gallery is an artist-run alternative space founded in 1982. The gallery is committed to exhibiting the work of established and emerging artists. It hosts one-person and group exhibitions by gallery members and provides exhibition opportunities for guest artists in its Center Gallery. The gallery is located in Boston's historic South End between Harrison Avenue and Albany Street in the vibrant SoWA gallery district.