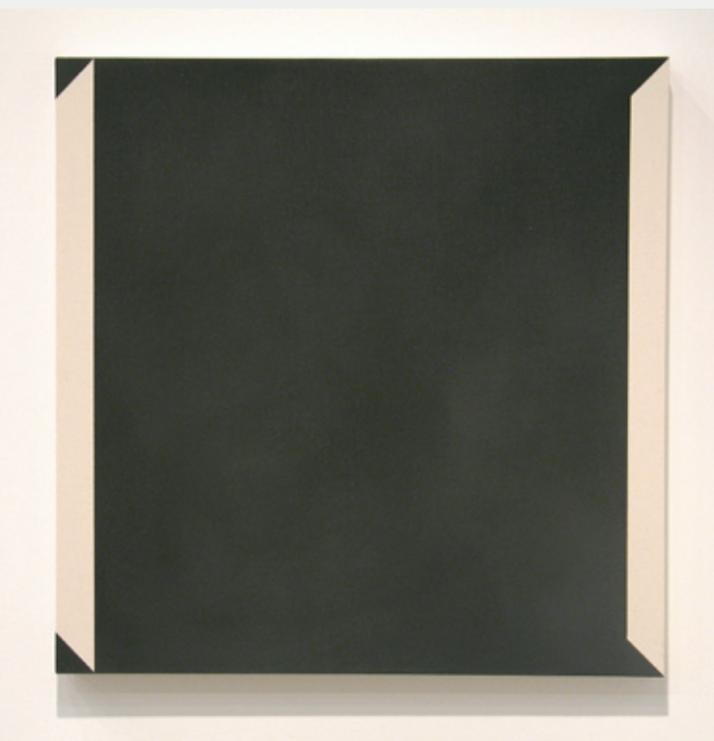


STÉPHANE LA RUE: *SENS DESSUS DESSOUS*

Please join Stéphane La Rue for the opening of his exhibition *Sens Dessus Dessous* Saturday, October 17, 2009, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.



Several years ago TrépanierBaer introduced the work of Stéphane La Rue within the context of a group exhibition that also featured work by Martin Bennett and Eric Cameron. The exhibition, titled the *Angles of Repose*, linked these three artists from the point of view of their singular and distinct approaches to painting and their profound engagement with the root of the medium itself. *Sens Dessus Dessous* is an extension of that exhibition and focuses uniquely on La Rue's work.

Like Yves Klein's *Le Saut dans le Vide* (Leap into the Void) 1960, La Rue's work and the work in this exhibition are an audacious leap off the foundations of formalism and the history of the monochrome. This gesture propels the artist and the viewer beyond a mere reinvestigation of the genre into a deeply poetic presentation that is, as Marie-Eve Beaupré states in her catalogue essay, "...above all, a spatial treatment considered as a way of exploring the expressive power of empty spaces." Beaupré continues by stating that La Rue thus falls more in line with the great Québec painter Charles Gagnon and the American minimalist Fred Sandback than the pioneers of the monochrome itself. Of La Rue's work Roald Nasgaard has stated that his, "... painting comes to life as an exercise of the eye."

Stéphane La Rue will present paintings from three recent and distinct series of work that celebrate but also challenge the ground breaking achievements of Malevitch and his peers in the early part of the 20th century; work that we believe will place him at the forefront of the dialogue that surrounds abstract painting today.

Stéphane La Rue was born in Montréal. He is a graduate of Concordia University (M.F.A. 1998) and the University of Québec in Montréal (1991). His work has been featured in group and solo exhibitions in Québec, Ontario and in France. Most recently, La Rue has shown at the Galerie de l'UQAM and the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec in an exhibition curated by Louise Déry and Marie-Eve Beaupré; the Art Gallery of York University, 2003; the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, 2001; and the Musée du Québec in 2000.

The exhibition continues through to November 21.

We look forward seeing you on Saturday, October 17th.

For more information please contact the gallery at 403.244.2066 or by electronic mail at info@tbj1.com.