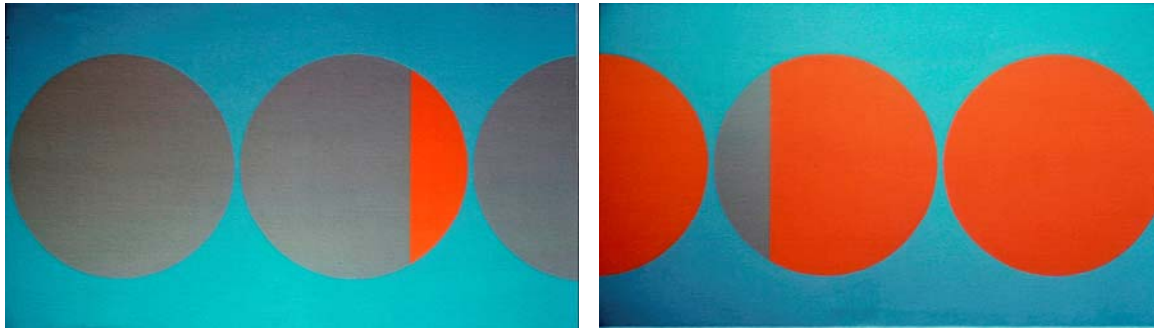


SIRI BERG *PHASES* Inaugural Exhibition of Hionas Gallery LES

JANUARY 11 – FEBRUARY 17, 2013
Opening reception: Friday, January 11, 6-8 PM



Phase 22 (1975). Diptych, acrylic on canvas, 30x104 in.

New York, NY (December 13, 2012) – Hionas Gallery is pleased to present *Phases*, a new solo exhibition from lauded abstract artist Siri Berg that is to be the inaugural show at Hionas Gallery LES, located at 124 Forsyth Street. The show will run from Friday, January 11 to Sunday, February 17, 2013.

Curated as something of a prequel to Berg's previous show at Hionas, which was a redux of her 1986 solo exhibition *Black & White: 1976-1981*, *Phases* is comprised of minimalist canvases created between the years 1970 and 1975. The artist isolates and expands upon her familiar motif of perfect geometric forms, this time rendered in brilliant color, all while channeling the words of W.B. Yeats, in particular the poet's esoteric 1925 work, *A Vision*. In this book-length study, Yeats explored his burgeoning interest in occult astrology, which as one could imagine placed a great emphasis on semiotics as well as the study of lunar phases.

In just one example, Yeats's reflections are brought to visual life in Berg's *Phase 22* (1975), a diptych of stunning clarity and simplicity, wherein sunlight and shade gradually trade fractions of space. Her use of complementary colors—turquoise and orange—from opposite ends of the spectrum don't so much collide as maintain a delicate balance, off set by increments of grey. Says Berg, "To paraphrase Yeats, all our lives we are either walking in the sunshine or we are walking in the shade."

Many of the works that comprise *Phases* were originally exhibited at New York's The Viewing Room Gallery in 1974. In his review of the show, *New York Times* critic Holland Cotter, then writing for *New York Arts Journal*, wrote of Berg's careful coloration: "Of this marriage, within the systematic division of the circle, Berg's canvases are composed." He later continued, "the components are simple but the structures produced are inexplicably poetic."

This will be Siri Berg's second show with Hionas Gallery; her first was *Black & White 1976-1981: Redux 2012*, which took place at Hionas's TriBeCa space at 89 Franklin Street in September, 2012. The **opening reception** for *Phases* will take place on **Friday, January 11**, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. The artist will be present.

About the Artist:

Siri Berg was born in 1921 in Stockholm, Sweden. She received her BA from the Institute of Art and Architecture at the University of Brussels. Her work has been exhibited nationally and internationally for over 30 years in such countries as Australia, China, Italy, Russia, Sweden, Spain and Germany, and across the United States. Her work is included in the permanent collection of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Southwest State University Art Museum, Minnesota; Cornell University's Herbert F. Johnson Museum, Ithaca, NY; and the Museum of Modern Art, Stockholm. Most recently, Berg exhibited at *Concrete*, the American Abstract Artists International 75th Anniversary exhibition in Paris, and *Siri Berg: It's All About Color* at the Painting Center in New York City. She is a long-time member of the American Abstract Artists and has taught Color Theory at Parsons, The New School for Design for over 30 years.

About the Gallery:

Hionas Gallery was founded in the spring of 2011, opening its initial exhibition space at 89 Franklin Street in a classic TriBeCa storefront. The gallery's founding mission is to invite contemporary and emerging artists, working in all variety of media, to participate in monthly solo exhibitions to showcase their latest work and artistic vision. Invited exhibitors have included Kaves, Jessica Stoller, Charles Lutz, Burton Machen, Warwick Saint, and Siri Berg, to name a few. Hionas Gallery LES, located at 124 Forsyth Street, will officially open in January, 2013.

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For more information visit www.hionasgallery.com

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