

REYNOLDS GALLERY

For Immediate Release

AMY FELDMAN

Mirror Cool

April 10 – May 30, 2015

Opening Reception for the Artist
Friday, April 10
7 – 9 pm



Mock Zero, 2015
Acrylic on canvas, 79 x 79 inches

Reynolds Gallery is pleased to announce *Mirror Cool*, an exhibition of paintings by Amy Feldman. The exhibition opens with a reception for the artist on Friday, April 10, and continues through May 30, 2015. This is Feldman's second solo show at Reynolds Gallery.

Feldman's large scale gray-on-gray abstractions are recognized for their bold display of form, isolation and distillation of image, and for their reductive yet impactful language. Oscillating between figure and ground, her seemingly simple compositions undermine the logic of their own stability, and pivot immediacy with resonance. Feldman's powerful paintings, and her perspective on the nature of simplicity within iteration, provide a platform for reflection on critical questions in the post-digital age. The artist's work combines an awareness of formal traditions and an innovative, stripped-down painting language that alludes to a cultural shift in how images are perceived and registered (and their increasingly unstable role in contemporary culture).

Feldman completes each painting in a single attempt with facility and ease. Her pressured practice and 'make-or-break' method speaks to a larger contemporary communal anxiety, as urgency is literally embedded into the framework of her paintings. On first read, Feldman's pictures strike the viewer with their graphic force and physicality. Yet, after the initial 'hit', subtleties are discovered, and their sophistication lingers. A suspension between surface, iconography, geometry is presented to cue the viewer into the significance of her chosen images. Her works pack a visual punch while retaining a conceptual rigor, humor, and timelessness.

At Reynolds Gallery, Feldman presents monumental works with references to contemporary signs, symbols, digital ideograms and the body. Courting allusion, her forms are often shapes the viewer *almost* recognizes – a smoke ring, a letter from the alphabet, or a starburst. She distorts and twists the shapes to create works that are intentionally elastic in their meaning. Coming in and out of legibility, the forms push and pull, move and undulate, referring to the instability of images and signs.

With an affinity towards the cartoonish, Feldman consciously interjects humor into her practice. Her titles are often seriocomic extensions of her paintings, absurdly mining the human condition— a prime example from the show is *I is for Idiot* (2015), in which a floppy and bulbous capital "I" floats in front of an

amorphous dark gray shape. In *Mock Zero* (2015), Feldman relies on the volume of the dark, loopy ring to push against and activate lighter space. This pull between light and dark, airiness and weight calls into question the negative and positive spaces of the painting. In the gallery, Feldman has positioned two similar works that mirror each other. Their cool, uncanny palette dovetails with the force of her seemingly nonchalant gesture, as the forms bounce and pop, exuberantly doubling and reverberating throughout the space.

Amy Feldman received her BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design in 2003 and MFA from Rutgers University in 2008. She was the VCUarts Fountainhead Fellow in Painting in 2008-09. She has had solo exhibitions at Blackston, New York; Sorry We're Closed, Brussels, Belgium; ANNAELLE Gallery, Stockholm, Sweden. Feldman's work has been included in group exhibitions at Kunstmuseum Bonn, Germany; Museo Britanico Americano, Mexico City; Musée d'art Moderne, Saint-Etienne, France; New Britain Museum of American Art, CT; The American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, NY; Bronx River Arts Center, New York, NY. She is the recipient of numerous awards, residencies, and grants including the Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant (2013), the Marie Walsh Sharpe Residency Fellowship (2012), the Robert Motherwell Fellowship at the MacDowell Colony (2011), a Yaddo Residency Fellowship (2011), and a Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture Fellowship (2009). Feldman's work has been reviewed and featured in *ArtForum*, *The New York Times*, *Art in America*, *Art Info*, *Manhattan Magazine*, *Time Out New York*, *BOMB Magazine*, *The Brooklyn Rail*, *Hyperallergic*, *The New Criterion*, *NY Arts Magazine*, *Figaro Scope*, *Télérama Sortir*, *Le Quotidien de l'Art*, *Omkonst*, *The Art Economist*, *Saatchi Online Magazine*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *Dust Magazine*, *Vogue Mexico*, and *The Huffington Post*, among other publications.



I is for Idiot, 2015, acrylic on canvas, 79 x 79 inches

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