

Kate Spencer Stewart  
*Convention*  
April 23 - May 27 2022

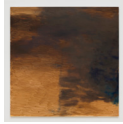
Bureau is pleased to present *Convention*, Kate Spencer Stewart's first solo exhibition at Bureau. The installation comprises eight large, square format oil paintings. Each painting is contained and unique while also sharing a potentially vast and limitless visual-spatial field with its nearby siblings. Installed together they form a polluted and cacophonous chorus, invoking the experiential nature of an enveloping altarpiece, or a dense and chaotic frieze.

The works offer a synesthetic space, one where the senses merge and warp; where color, texture and light transform into vibration and drone. At different vantage points the paintings buzz and hum, sometimes acutely and sometimes diffusely. The works' surfaces open up and unfold as the observer shifts and moves around them. There is a close and encompassing view, where patterns of brushwork fan and feather over atmospheric underpaintings. Pulling back, there are sweeps of color which cloud and shimmer, radiating out to expanding fields of spatial movement.

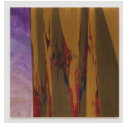
Stewart admits that she is always attempting to paint nothing, or the void. Her process is grounded in repetitive mark making, re-examination and reiteration. The paintings start from a seed of reference but work off one another in a kind of feedback loop, with each proceeding through layered processes that contain many entry points. Ultimately the viewer is left with something new, that only the painting itself can communicate. Stewart highlights the element of earth, and the predominance of brown in the paintings for *Convention*. The transformation of matter unfolds on the works' surfaces, building from earthy and aqueous underpaintings to the gaseous movement of igneous colors as the paintings transmit a blurred, hazy light. The artist's manipulation of raw material – of crushed earth elements, ground crystals, and rare organic pigments – is ultimately employed, paradoxically, to offer a view toward the non-material.

Kate Spencer Stewart (b. 1984 Phoenix, AZ) Lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. She received a BFA from Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles, an MFA from the University of California, Los Angeles, and attended the Mountain School of the Arts, Los Angeles. Recent solo exhibitions include Maison de Rendez-Vous, Brussels; Park View / Paul Soto, Los Angeles; and The Gallery @ Le Hangar Restaurant, Paris. Her work has been included in group exhibitions at Emalin, London; Bureau, New York; Neuer Kunstverein Wien, Austria; Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York; Misako & Rosen Gallery, Tokyo; and Piktogram Gallery, Warsaw, among others.

(from left to right)



*Comb*, 2022  
Oil on linen  
66 × 66 in.



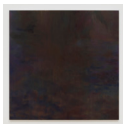
*Trench*, 2022  
Oil on linen  
66 × 66 in.



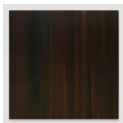
*Waine*, 2022  
Oil on linen  
66 × 66 in.



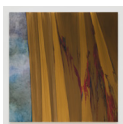
*Lith*, 2022  
Oil on linen  
66 × 66 in.



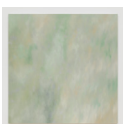
*Esker*, 2022  
Oil on linen  
66 × 66 in.



*Ost*, 2022  
Oil on linen  
66 × 66 in.



*Barrow*, 2022  
Oil on linen  
66 × 66 in.



*Viburn*, 2022  
Oil on linen  
66 × 66 in.