

# HALSEY MCKAY GALLERY

## *MAP OF THE GARDEN*

GRAHAM COLLINS, LYNNE DREXLER, LUCY MINK

July 4 - 28, 2025 | 79 Newtown Lane, East Hampton, NY

For further information please email [contact@halseymckay.com](mailto:contact@halseymckay.com)



Lucy Mink, *In the Same Area*, 2016, oil on canvas, 60 x 72 inches

Halsey McKay Gallery is pleased to announce *Map of the Garden*, an intergenerational exhibition of paintings by Graham Collins, Lynne Drexler, and Lucy Mink.

*Map of the Garden* pursues a constellation of formal inquiries into the relationship between abstraction and representation. Together, these distinct but adjacent practices restage and reinvigorate perennial questions about the scope, meaning, and representational obligations of the painted plane.

Drexler's oil paintings from the late 1960s occupy a liminal space between abstraction and landscape. This transitional or non-place is expressed within the compositions themselves through the juxtaposition of flat, geometric forms with more organic masses achieved through stippling and impasto. The gradual mid-century art historical turn away from Abstract Expressionism is here documented not as a break, but a sort of decomposition of pure form.

Mink's canvases chart a different route through the same territory. These paintings integrate allusions to natural space, into a complex plane mapped by an almost perceptible grid flickering in and out of view in dense foliage. It is a cartographic, Borgesian gesture: collapsing the map and the territory, reflecting the artist's desire to distribute their attention across the various sensory inputs of eye, mind, and hand.

A series of sculptural paintings by Graham Collins is similarly concerned with the impossible relationship between dimensions foregrounded by representational painting and subsequently disavowed (but never successfully disappeared) by gestures of abstraction. Here, reductive canvases form a face, organizing the initial encounter with an extended surface that belies the intricacies of abstraction. The forms are given a literal depth by ceramic supports that extend and aestheticize the traditional frame. But they also suggest a temporal record or an archeological turn. These armatures alter the time of viewing by demanding closer, more extensive attention to blocks of color that twenty-first-century spectators have come to take for granted. In this manner, Collins' paintings also raise questions about the time of production, art historical time, and the misleading temporality of the abstract gesture at large.

By bringing these works together, *Map of the Garden*, invites the viewer into an exciting and generative space produced by similarities and differences of gesture, gaps and intersections of intent, and a unifying desire to map an impossible territory.

Graham Collins (b.1980) lives and works in Upstate New York. He received his BFA from Corcoran College of Art in Washington, 2003 and MFA from Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY, 2010. Collins has had several solo shows including with Halsey McKay Gallery, New York, Brooklyn and East Hampton, New York; The Journal, Brooklyn, NY; Almine Rech, Brussels, Belgium; Bugata & Cargnel, Paris, France; Jonathan Viner Gallery, London, United Kingdom.

Lynne Drexler (1928–99) was born in Newport News, Virginia, and lived and worked in New York City and Monhegan Island, Maine. Solo exhibitions include White Cube, London; Berry Campbell, New York; Mnuchin Gallery, New York; Bates College Museum of Art, Lewiston, Maine; Middlesex College, Piscataway, New Jersey; St. John's University, New York, among others. Drexler's work is held in public collections across the United States, including the Art Institute of Chicago, Illinois; Bates College, Lewiston, Maine; Brooklyn Museum, New York; Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland, Maine; Greenville County Museum of Art, South Carolina; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles California; Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, New York; Mint Museum, Charlotte, North Carolina; and Monhegan Museum, Maine.

Lucy Mink (b.1968) lives and works in Contoocook, NH. Mink's work has been included in numerous group and solo exhibitions including Big Town Gallery, Rochester, VT; McGowan Fine Art in Concord, NH; Jaffe-Freide Gallery at Dartmouth College; Hoffman LaChance Contemporary, St. Louis, MO; Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA; Outlet Fine Art, Brooklyn NY; Barney Savage Gallery in NYC; LABspace Gallery, Hillsdale NY; and Kishka Gallery in White River Junction, VT. She is the recipient of a Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant and has been an Artist in Residence at Dartmouth College. Mink received her MFA from Minneapolis College of Art and Design, and her BFA from Savannah College of Art and Design.