

SITE SANTA FE

SITE SANTA FE PRESENTS SITElab 17: *distance to venus*

BROOKLYN-BASED ARTIST REBECCA WARD EXPLORES THE LANDSCAPE OF QUEER MOTHERHOOD IN NEW SOLO EXHIBITION

September 1 - November 5, 2022

Opening Celebration: September 1, 2022, 5:00 - 9:00 PM

(Santa Fe, NM, August 4, 2022) – SITE Santa Fe is pleased to present a new solo SITElab exhibition by Rebecca Ward, entitled *distance to venus*, from September 1 through November 5, 2022. This exhibition showcases Ward's ground-breaking work at the intersection of painting and sculpture through a selection of recent work (2021-2022) tracing the transformative phases of pregnancy and childbirth through the language of geometry, materiality, and abstraction.



“Rebecca brings depth of feeling to the formal precision of geometric abstraction. Her labored approach to painting involves deconstructing and reconstructing her canvases. Her process involves sewing cut planes of painted and dyed canvas together and removing sections of the weft—revealing the underlying stretcher bars—emphasizing the structure of the painting beyond its surface,” says curator Brandee Caoba.

Expanding upon her previous works displaying hard angles and straight lines, the fourteen works in this exhibition employ undulating curves to evoke both the landscape and an idealized, if abstracted, female form.

Drawing from the artist's experience as a queer person experiencing motherhood, the body of work explores the relationship between the archetype of the female goddess, the changing human body, landscape, mathematics, and celestial phenomena.

The exhibition coincides with the release of a monograph entitled *before & after*, which includes a conversation with SITE Santa Fe curator Brandee Caoba.

SITELab 17: *distance to venus* opens Thursday, September 1, from 5:00-9:00 PM, with a local musical performance, cocktails by Altar Spirits, and food from Jambo Hapa.

SITELab 17: *distance to venus* is curated by Brandee Caoba.

About the Artist

Rebecca Ward (b. 1984, Waco, TX) earned a BA at the University of Texas, Austin (2006) and an MFA at the School of the Visual Arts, New York (2012). She currently lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. Museum exhibitions include *Fresh Faces from the Rachofsky Collection, Site 131*, Dallas, TX (2021); *Over & Over*, Columbia College, Chicago, IL (2018); *Rebecca Ward*, The FLAG Art Foundation, New York, NY (2017); *Eastwing Biennial: Artificial Realities*, The Courtauld Institute of Art, London, UK (2016); *Making & Unmaking*, Camden Art Centre, London, UK (2016); *The Tim Sayer Bequest*, The Hepworth Wakefield, Wakefield, UK (2016); *Space Between*, The FLAG Art Foundation, New York, NY (2015); *Linear Abstraction*, Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, GA (2015); and *Rebecca Ward: indulgences*, Exchiesetta, Polignano a Mare, Italy (2015). Ward is the subject of a monograph of her exhibition at The FLAG Art Foundation, New York, NY (2021). Residencies include Shandaken: Storm King Art Center, New Windsor, NY (2016); and Atelier Alighiero Boetti, Todi, Italy (2013).



Thank you

Support for *distance to venus* is generously provided by Marti Meyerson and Jamie Hooper, and contributors to the SITE Santa Fe Annual Exhibition Fund.

Additional funding is provided by the City of Santa Fe Arts and Culture Department and the 1% Lodgers' Tax.

Image Credits

Rebecca Ward, *sine wave*, 2022
acrylic and dye on stitched canvas
18 x 24 inches

Rebecca Ward, *ordinary frequency*, 2022
acrylic, dye, and flashe on stitched canvas
18 x 24 inches

All images courtesy of the artist

About SITE Santa Fe

SITE Santa Fe nurtures innovation, discovery, and inspiration through the art of today. Founded in 1995 to establish the first international contemporary art biennial in the United States, SITE Santa Fe is a non-collecting art institution committed to supporting new developments in contemporary art, encouraging artistic exploration, and expanding traditional museum experiences. Since its launch, SITE Santa Fe has presented 11 international biennials, more than 95 contemporary art exhibitions, and works by hundreds of emerging and established artists from around the world and right here in New Mexico. SITE Santa Fe also presents a wide range of public and educational programs that include conversations with artists and curators, performances, film screenings, concerts, hands-on workshops, and collaborations with dozens of local schools and community organizations.

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