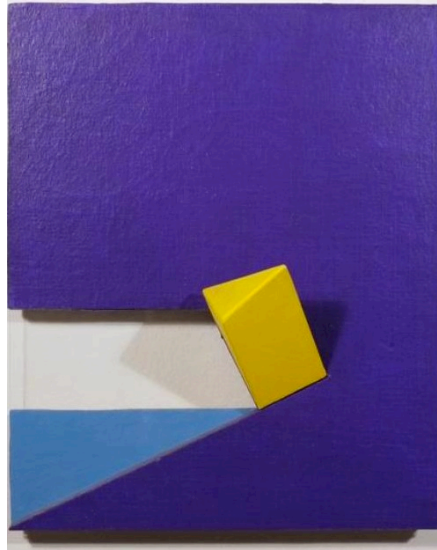


WASHBURN

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David Ebony's Top 10 New York Gallery Shows for April

David Ebony, Wednesday, April 22, 2015



7. Charles Hinman at [Washburn Gallery](#), through June 26.

Veteran painter Charles Hinman made a splash in the 1960s with his pioneering use of shaped canvases in abstract compositions that pushed the boundaries of what a painting could or couldn't be. Subsequently, his experiments were appropriated by legions of painters, and, as is often the case in recent art history, his groundbreaking efforts fell into relative obscurity. Luckily, this exhibition, "Space Windows," featuring a series of works executed in 2008, is a welcome reminder that Hinman has been producing excellent work all along, and ought to be better known today.

These meticulous constructions of geometric design are painted in buoyant hues, usually limited to three per work. Each composition, made of acrylic on non-woven acrylic fiber on wood, with Plexiglas panels, features a large wedge shape that protrudes from the canvas at nearly a right angle, and appears to slice through the surface. The spatial games Hinman thereby initiates in vibrant works such as *Wooster* and *Prince*, challenge the viewers' depth perception. But Hinman is not merely after optical tricks. These distinctive objects, spare and emphatic as they may be, bear a monumental and timeless quality.

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