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Jeannie Motherwell

ARTIST STATEMENT

Having vacationed on Cape Cod Bay since childhood, I am influenced by the constantly changing landscape that surrounds me, and – when not within hearing distance of the waves lapping or crashing onshore – by the images of celestial phenomena as seen in outer space. I am amazed by the images and mysteries of the oceans and skies in changing weather (inner space), images of the universe, and my own physicality during the painting process. It has inspired my paintings, which have an intimacy to the space in them but also an immensity.

The pouring process I use helps me explore spatial complexities that yield marvelous surprises, taking me in directions I cannot anticipate. There are things that happen in my paintings that I cannot explain as I contemplate layer upon layer with intermittent editing and erasing. I may try to control the paintings while working, but I am really searching for answers to make the unexpected work for me. It is about exploring the unknown and then refining it to reflect a visceral memory or experience. I like to think of my paintings as ‘events’ or ‘occurrences’ – actions that emerge in the here and now.