

Janet Fish

Pinwheels and Poppies, Paintings 1980 – 2008

September 7 – 30, 2017

Opening Reception: September 7, 6-8pm



Janet Fish, *Dragon Kite*, 2007. Oil on canvas, 40 x 50 in.

New York, NY, August 3, 2017 – **DC Moore Gallery** is pleased to announce the opening of the exhibition, **Janet Fish: Pinwheels and Poppies**, offering a rare opportunity to view major works the artist produced from 1980 to 2008. The title refers to the joie de vivre with which Fish revitalized the genre of still life painting in the years following her introduction to the New York art world in the late 1960s. Committed to an intense, expressive use of brushstrokes and the verisimilitude of objects, Fish's paintings are filled with spirit, intensity, and irreverent wit. Her work exists in a state of flux, hovering in a space between fluid technique and measured stillness, where each object is animated by color and light.

Graduating with an MFA from Yale in 1963, Fish was part of a group of artists that included Chuck Close, Richard Serra, Robert Mangold, Rackstraw Downes, Nancy Graves, Sylvia Plimack Mangold, and Brice Marden. Together they cultivated an intense and competitive cohort in which they were able to develop their diverse and individual practices. While at Yale, Fish studied under Alex Katz who encouraged her to explore landscape painting. As the works in this exhibition demonstrate, Fish has had an insatiable desire to explore settings and objects, always challenging herself in her work.

In Fish's words, *"I see light as energy, and energy is always moving through us. I don't see things as being separated—I don't paint the objects I paint one after the other. I paint through the painting."*

As light reflects, refracts, transforms and engages with each surface she paints, Fish gives form to energy. These singular moments are constantly in flux and change is always implied. In each viewing something new can be discovered.

"I would like it to be more of a novel than a short story, so you could go back in and see something different another time."

DC Moore will also be exhibiting for the first time *Carl Hunting* (70 x 100 ¼ in), one of Fish's largest paintings in which a solitary hunter silently waits amidst barren trees in early morning light. This quiet scene is given a stunning, palpable energy in Fish's hand, where color delineates and activates the wild landscape.

Janet Fish was born in Boston in 1938, but grew up in Bermuda, a vibrant place to which she attributes her own fascination with bright light and intense color. Fish attended Smith College and received her MFA from Yale University in 1963. She currently lives in New York City and rural Vermont. The landscape of Vermont and the garden she maintains there often figure prominently in her paintings. Recent exhibitions include solo shows at the Federal Reserve, Washington DC and her work was included in the Philadelphia Museum's exhibition *The Female Gaze: Women Artists Making Their World*. Works by Janet Fish are included the permanent collections of over seventy-five institutions including, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY; Brooklyn Museum, NY; Cleveland Museum of Art, OH; Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, ME; Detroit Institute of Arts, MI; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA; National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC; Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA; Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA; Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY; and Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT.



Pumpkin, 2008. Oil on canvas, 48 x 60 in.

DC MOORE GALLERY specializes in contemporary and twentieth-century art. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm. For more information, for photographs, or to arrange a viewing, please call 212-247-2111 or email Rachel Johnson at rjohnson@dcmooregallery.com.