

Morgan Presents

Cora Cohen: Works from the 1980's
September 15th—October 18th, 2022
155 Suffolk Street, New York, NY 10002



3085-7, 1987
Flashe and oil on linen
70 x 66 inches
177.8 x 167.6 cm

These works were overlooked in their time and I believe they, and Cora Cohen, deserve to be looked at with fresh eyes. They are, first and foremost, great paintings and I hope you get the chance to come and see them in person.

*Sincerely,
Morgan*

While Cora Cohen's works are supremely concerned with the maintenance and integrity of the internal logic of each painting, they care little for larger conceptual systems or groupings. In this body of work from the 1980's, Cohen calibrates compositional structure, form and color, all in the service of a larger investigation of weight and weightlessness in painting.

Cohen interweaves washed, almost watery grounds and built up impasto reserves of color, with varying ration and calibration in each picture. Within these impasto regions, which in Untitled constitutes the entire work, paint is applied with an assertive intentionality; somewhat reminiscent of Hedda Sterne's New York series of the 1950's, or perhaps in dialogue with Cohen's friend and colleague Joan Mitchell's abstract landscapes. Cohen's washed grounds of color counter Helen Frankenthaler's open expanses, which depended upon the imagination of the viewer for their empowerment, as even Cohen's washier brushstrokes convey a gesture of expression and touch. Cohen treats both lighter and heavier moments with the same courtesy and dignity: her exploration encompasses both weighty and weightless moments in painting.