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September at Traver Gallery – Seattle

Exhibition Dates: August 25 – October 2, 2011

First Thursday Reception: Thursday, September 1, 5 – 8 pm

Artist Talk in the Gallery: Saturday, October 1, 11 am – 12 pm

Dick Weiss: *Good Fences*

Dave Walters: *The Other Side of the Looking Glass*

Shea Bajaj: *Facets of Light*

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The Traver Gallery in Seattle is pleased to present *Facets of Light*, a solo exhibition featuring a selection of abstract paintings by Seattle artist Shea Bajaj. In this new series of work, Bajaj continues his ongoing quest to capture of the mutable qualities of light, shadow, and color while exploring how perspective affects our perception of spacial relationships.

Bajaj, an architect and avid pilot, has long been enamored with landscapes as seen from above. Fascinated by the juxtaposition of the rigid and geometric manmade forms with the native and natural setting, the artist often uses his own aerial photographs of rural and urban landscapes as a compositional starting point. Because of the unusual vantage point from which the images are captured, only slight alterations are necessary in order for us to perceive them as abstractions.



Bajaj's ongoing fascination with light and its varying qualities led him to explore the work of Northwest Mystic painters Mark Tobey and Morris Graves, both of whom often worked in egg tempera. Known for both its durability and its luminosity, egg tempera is a combination of pigment, binder (egg white) and water. Bajaj was struck by how Tobey and Graves were able to create such rich and varying atmospheres in their work, and he began to branch out from his work in tinted resin to explore the capabilities of the traditional tempera medium.

Shea Bajaj studied Fine Art at Willamette University in Oregon, and shows his work at several galleries along the West Coast. He has participated in numerous group shows in Seattle, and is a regular contributor to PONCHO, Artist Trust, and Pratt Fine Arts Center's annual auctions.

Caption information: Shea Bajaj, *SKY ARCHAEOLOGY*, egg tempera on panel, 30"h x 37.5"w, 2011.

High-resolution versions of this and other images are available from the gallery.

Located one block north of the Seattle Art Museum, the Traver Gallery is one of the country's premier exhibition spaces for contemporary studio glass, painting, sculpture, and installation art. Gallery hours are Tuesday – Friday 10 – 6, Saturday 10 – 5, and Sunday 12 – 5. For more information, please call (206) 587-6501 or visit our website at www.travergallery.com.