



BONITA HELMER

CHANGE IN VELOCITY

Cover:
Bonita Helmer, Red Planet I, 2021
Acrylic and Spray Paint and Solar Panel on canvas, 36 x 24 inches

Bonita Helmer

Change in Velocity

November 20, 2021 - January 1, 2022

GEORGE BILLIS GALLERY 

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CHANGE IN VELOCITY

“The knowledge of which geometry aims is the knowledge of the eternal” PLATO

There are many references and symbols attached to the term *Change in Velocity*. There is an unseen structure and beauty to the term both scientifically and spiritually.

In physics, when used in an equation, change in velocity refers to various changes of speed, direction and distance. This equation is symbolically represented by the delta or triangle. The letter delta was used as far back as in the theories of Plato. Delta is a letter in the Greek alphabet and is the initial letter meaning difference.

On a spiritual level the triangle has many significant meanings in many cultures. A triangle is a simple shape but contains a profound meaning that symbolizes unity and balance as well as change. It is expressed differently in various religions but usually symbolizes a desire for transcendence. The triangle is an ancient symbol for a deity or the divine union. Pyramids and triangles formed by their three-sided shapes, can often symbolize the unity of mind, body, and spirit.

Presently we are in an era where we are finding that change is absolutely necessary for our survival as a planet and for a return to unity as a universal people. My last body of work was called *In the Midst of Chaos*. Now three years later, during this particular time in human history, I feel an intense desire to express the need to come out of the chaos and increase the change of velocity towards light and spirit. These paintings do not fully describe where we are going but hopefully symbolize the movement and longing for the direction of change.

In all of my work I try to bridge the gap in art, science and spirituality by bringing out the similarities. We find that science and spirituality do not exclude one another but work together to examine unseen structures in order to share the mysteries of our world. I often use geometric shapes in my work, along with natural flow and forms. The poured and flow forms represent nature while the geometrics refer to the human mind and the attempt to control nature. However, I have never concentrated completely on the triangle before this body of work. The reference to the delta or the triangle began intuitively but, after lots of research, I realized that there are no accidents. It is a symbol that I use to express the beauty, excitement, desire, and the need for *Change in Velocity*.

-Bonita Helmer, November 2021





Change in Velocity III, 2019

Acrylic and Spray Paint on canvas

36 x 48 inches



Change in Tempo I, 2021

Acrylic and Spray Paint on Canvas

36 x 48 inches



Change in Tempo II, 2021
Acrylic and Spray Paint on Canvas
36 x 48 inches







Change in Velocity I, 2019
Acrylic and Spray Paint on canvas
36 x 48 inches





Red Planet I, 2021

Acrylic and Spray Paint and Solar Panel on canvas

36 x 24 inches



Red Planet II, 2021

Acrylic and Spray Paint and Solar Panel on canvas

36 x 24 inches



Red Planet III, 2021

Acrylic and Spray Paint and Solar Panel on canvas

36 x 24 inches







V = Released, 2021

Acrylic and spray paint on canvas

36 x 48 inches



Shelter III, 2021

Acrylic and Spray Paint on canvas

24 x 24 inches



Velocity Contained, 2021

Acrylic and Spray Paint on canvas

36 x 48 inches



Shelter V, 2021

Acrylic and Spray Paint on Canvas

36 x 24 inches



As Time Goes By I, 2021

Acrylic and Spray Paint on canvas

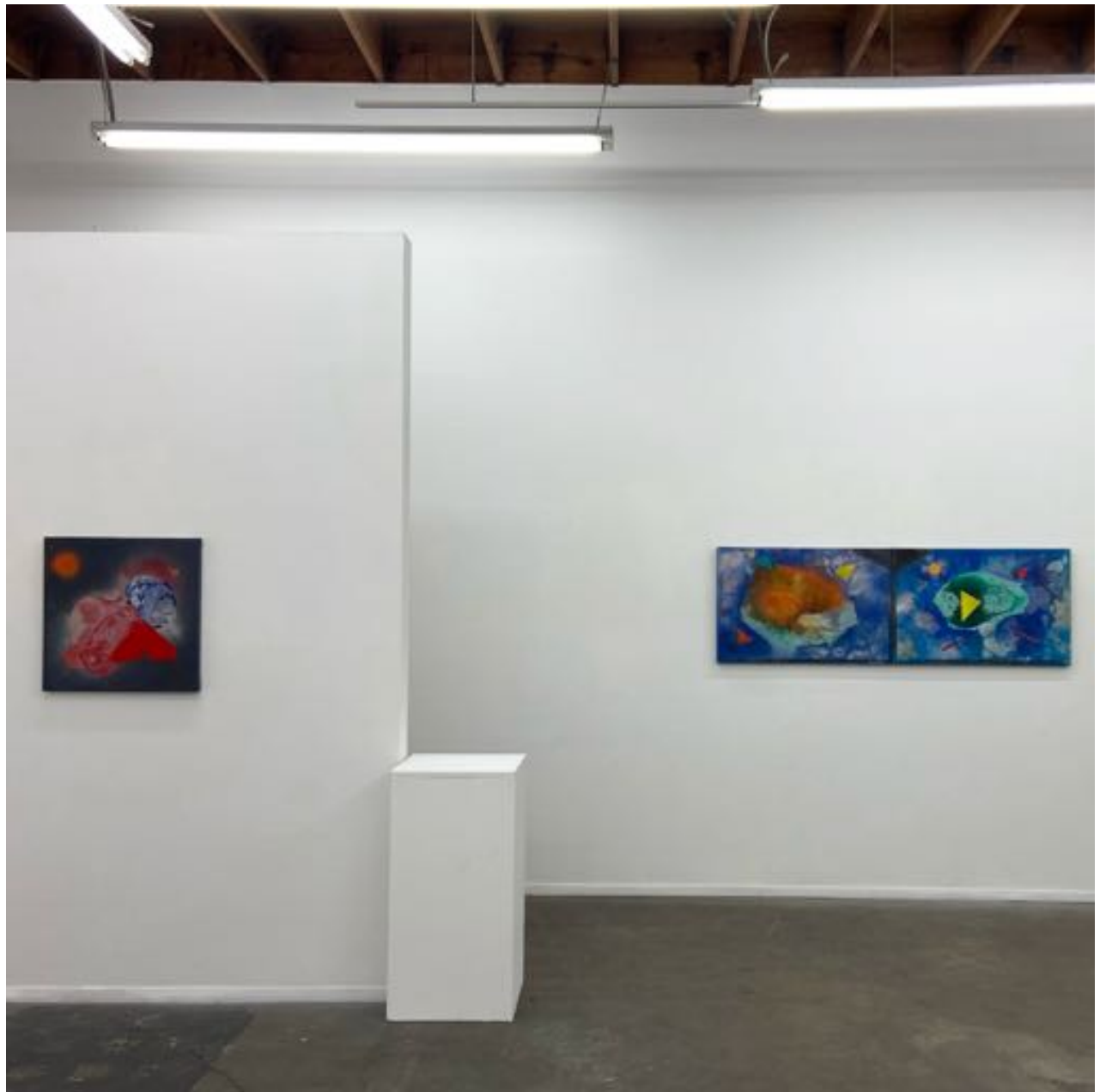
20 x 30 inches



As Time Goes By II, 2021

Acrylic and Spray Paint on canvas

20 x 30 inches



BONITA HELMER

EDUCATION

Graduate Work, Otis Art Institute, CA 1978
Additional Studies with Francoise Gilot
BFA in Painting, UCLA and Antioch University

MUSEUM AND PUBLIC SPACES (solo and group shows)

2019 Jerusalem Biennial, "For Heaven's Sake" Jerusalem, Israel
2017 Museum Sonderjylland "Far Out" BRUNDLUND SLOT, Denmark
2014 MOCA Beijing, "The Form of the Formless," Beijing, China
2014 Fisher Museum, **solo Installation** for performance piece, "This and my Heart" – Emily Dickenson, University of Southern California
2013 The Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery at Barnsdall, "The Spiritual in Art"
2012 MOLAA (Museum of Latin American Art.), Long Beach, CA
2012 Teda Contemporary Art Museum. Tianjin, China
2011 Or'Hatorah Cultural Center, **Solo exhibition**, "The Four Worlds" Los Angeles, CA
2009 Zimmer Museum, Los Angeles, CA
2009 Skirball Museum and Cultural Center, Video Installation 15 artists participating, Los Angeles, CA
2009 Cal State Channel Islands "The Non-Objective Object" with Ruth Pastine and Jack Reilly
2007 MOCA, Whack exhibit, official Adjunct show, **featured artist**, Beyond Words and Time, UCLA New School of Psychoanalysis
2007 NYU Hebrew Union College Museum, The LA Story, with Ruth Weisberg and Tony Berlant, NY
2006 Zimmer Museum, Los Angeles, CA
1999 UCLA/Hammer Museum, **Solo Painting Installation** at Murdoch Plaza, Los Angeles, CA
1996 Musee de L'Espce Bateau Lavoir, L'Ecole des Arts Decoratifs, **Solo exhibition** "Artiste De Los Angeles, Paris, France
1989 Downey Art Museum: "Women Artists who are Mothers", Downey, CA
1985 Newport Harbor Art Museum (presently- Orange County Museum of Art) Director Paul Schimmel, "The Ecstasy of St. Teresa, sets for Performance piece.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2121 Changes in Velocity, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, Ca
2018-19 "In the Midst of Chaos, George Billis, Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2015-16 Observed, George Billis Galley, Los Angeles, CA
2014 Dune Gallery, New York Design Center, NY
2012 Here be Dragons, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2010 The Unseen Structure, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2009 UCLA, Dortort Center for the Arts, Hillel, Los Angeles, CA
2008 Mt. St. Mary's College, Los Angeles, CA
2008 George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2006 George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2000 Transamerica Building, curated by Patrick Ela - Los Angeles, CA
2000 El Camino College, Center for the Performing Arts, El Camino, CA
1997 Vorpall Gallery, San Francisco, CA
1995 New Work, Vorpall Gallery, San Francisco, Ca
1991 Ojai Valley Music Festival, exhibit and festival poster design, catalogue by Nancy Doll, Curator Santa Barbara Art Museum

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2021 "Urban Paradise, Shatto Gallery, Los Angeles
2019 "For Heaven's Sake", Jerusalem Biennial, Jerusalem, Israel
2019 "Event Horizon", McMish Gallery Oxnard College, curated by Mela Marsh
2019 "I Am Nature," The Loft at Liz's, LA
2018 FOCA (friends of contemporary Art) "Carbon" China town, Los Angeles, CA
2018 "L.A. meets Shanghai in Berlin," Kunstraum F200, Philip Johnston Berlin, Germany
2017 A Women's Perspective, MRG Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2017 "Fiction" Christoph Damm Art Room, Berlin, Germany
2017 "Far Out" Gallerie Nexus, Denmark
2016-17 RaumZeit (Spacetime), Kunstraum F200 galerie, Philip Johnston Bl. Berlin
2012 Hebrew Union College, USC, Los Angeles, CA
2010 City of Los Angeles Gallery at Barnsdall Actions, Conversations, and Intersections, participating artist
2008 Contemplations, Mt. St. Mary's College, Los Angeles
2008 Art Matters, Contemporary Gallery, Huntington Library, San Marino, CA
2004 Track 16, "The Hollywood Bowl Spheres," Bergamot Station, Santa Monica
2003 Jewish Federation Building, with Helen Frankenthaler, Larry Rivers, Stanley Boxer curated by Nancy Berman, Director Emeritus, Skirball Museum,
1993 Artists Books, Municipal Gallery, Barnsdall, curated by J. Dallal and L Kasmer, Los Angeles,
1993 California State University Northridge, School of Fine Art, Northridge, CA
1992 Sherry Frumkin Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
1990 Momentum Gallery, Ventura Arts Council, Ventura CA
1990 Pence Gallery, "Art and Soul", Santa Monica, CA
1988 Vorpall Gallery, group show with Andy Warhol, Wayne Thiebaud et al., San Francisco, CA
1987 Seven LA Artists, Gallery Q, Tokyo
1986 Kathryn Markel Gallery, New York

GRANTS

NEA grant for set design, "This and My Heart", Emily Dickenson, 2009
18th Street Arts Complex and Getty grant, "Art in the Middle Schools," 1999
City of Los Angeles Dept. of Cultural Affairs, "Children at Risk," 1995
California Arts Council and L.A. Theater Works, "Children in Prison," 1992,93
California Arts Council and Ojai Valley Art Center, 1990

MULTIMEDIA AND SITE SPECIFIC INSTALLATIONS

2009 "This and My Heart," Emily Dickenson, set paintings for performance piece, The Beach House , Dept. of Cultural Affairs, City of Santa Monica) and Cal Plaza (grand performances), CA
2000 El Camino College, Center for the Performing Arts, set paintings for "The Stage, The Street, The Spirit, El Camino, Ca.
2007 Home of Barbara Zacky and Ellen Sturtz, Malibu, Commission, CA
2006 Sylvee Terree, Yoga Studio Commission, St. Barths, French West Indies
2000 Office of Rabbi Steven Robbins. Commission Painting, Los Angeles, CA
1998 Japan-America Theater, Set Paintings for "the XTC of St. Teresa, New Age Opera" co Produced by Cal Arts and Cal State Fullerton. Los Angeles, Ca
1993/1994 Homesite, traveling exhibition, Project by J. Dallal and L. Kasmer, funded in part by City Of Los Angeles, Dept. of Cultural Affairs

CURATORIAL WORK

Curator, Mobius 2, Otis College of Art and South Gallery, Los Angeles, 2010

Curator, Evolution: The Process of Abstraction, Eight LA Artists, Otis College of Art and Design, Bolsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, 2004
Fringe Festival, CARS, California Art Resources Services, Artists Curating Artists, Spring Street, part of the L. A. Festival, curated by Peter Sellers, 1990

TEACHING

Otis College of Art and Design, Faculty Instructor - Los Angeles. 1998-2018
18th St. Arts Complex, L.A. Middle Schools. 1998
Children at Risk, City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs & L.A. Theater Works, Los Angeles. 1995
Children in Prison, LA Theater Works/California Arts Council, Los Angeles, CA 1993-1995
SPARC, Painting Workshop, Venice, CA 1992
U.C.L.A., Extension, Los Angeles, CA 1989/1990

PUBLICATIONS

Wall Street Journal International, 2019
Carbon Allotropes: Visceral & Ethereal, An Artist's Response
Art and Cake, featured article by Gary Brewer 2018
Voyage L.A., featured article, 2018
Palm Beach Women, featured article, 2017
Art Ltd. Review "Observed" Megan Abrahams, 2016
ArtWeek L.A. featured article, Shayna Nys Dambrot, 2015
Extrordinart, featured article, Milan, Italy, 2014
Huffington Post, featured article, Tracey Harnish, 2012
ArtWeek.LA, featured article, 2012
ArtScene, featured artist review by Marlena Donahue, 2008
Art in America, American Artists, 2007
Mosaique (in French), 2007
Catalogue Essay, George Billis Gallery. Marlena Donahue, 2006
Metro L.A, Lauren Michelle 2006
Curatorial Statement, Patrick Ela - Los Angeles. 2001
Los Angeles Times, Art Upended, 1996
Al-Ahram International – (in French and Arabic) Paris, France. 1996
Art in America, American Artists. 1993
Art in America, American Artists. 1992
Los Angeles Times, L.A. Festival. 1991
California Art Review, American References, page 550, 553 & 555, 1989
Marouchi Times, Tokyo, Japan. 1986
Art Now/ California Gallery Guide, page 12, Feb. 1985
Los Angeles Times Calendar Section, front page, September 18, 1984
Arizona Sun Times, Art Section, page 1, November 12, 1982

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Morgan Stanley, New York
Sylvee Terree, Yoga Studio, St. Bart's, French West Indies
ComDev. Corporation – El Segundo
The Offices of Reed Smith and Assoc. - Los Angeles, CA
MODAC (Museum of Designers and Creators) - Los Angeles
The Law Offices of Weissman, Wolf and Associates - Beverly Hills
The Law Offices of Hufstедler, Miller, Carlson and Beardsley
Law offices of Andrew Pollet - Los Angeles

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