

franklin parrasch gallery, inc.

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Perception/Relief

Frieze Masters: October 3—October 7, 2018

Franklin Parrasch Gallery and Parrasch Heijnen Gallery will exhibit a joint presentation of six artists active in Southern California in the 1960s and 1970s: Peter Alexander (b.1939), Billy Al Bengston (b.1934), Tony DeLap (b.1927), Joe Goode (b.1937), Craig Kauffman (1932-2010), and John McCracken (1934-2011), each of whom, with various formats and materials, explored issues relating to perception and dimensionality and began using the wall to interact with and activate their work.

DeLap, Goode, and McCracken took particular interest in the perceptual possibilities of their art. While mining narrative techniques (Goode) and examining color's innate relationship to volume (DeLap, McCracken), they tested pre-existing boundaries to invent new modes of seeing. Alexander, Bengston, and Kauffman addressed the expanded potential of the picture plane by engaging the reflection and refraction of light on or through their works, using pigmented resins (Alexander), lacquered aluminum (Bengston), and vacuum-formed acrylics (Kauffman).

Goode's "milk bottle painting", which incorporates a painted milk bottle set on the floor in front of a painted canvas, draws a relationship with the background that unifies object and image while simultaneously exploiting the tension of their separation, and the space in between. McCracken's plank uses the wall to interact with its surrounding environment. The angled orientation of its highly reflective monochromatic surface explores the capacity of color and light to disorient the viewer's perception of depth and dimension.

This exhibition is a pure exploration of perception and a challenge to the limitations of painting as a vehicle to address the problems of dimensionality.