

THE LATCHAM GALLERY PRESENTS



SILVER LINING, 2018, acrylic and crayon on canvas, 55" x 35"

# Alice Teichert

text' painting

May 17 - June 30, 2018

## text' painting

We often talk about what we see when we look at art. This of course makes perfect sense – visual art absolutely involves the act of looking. But we must also consider the physical response we can have when we engage with an artwork and allow ourselves to be moved by the gestures, rhythm and poetry the artist is sharing with us. As you encounter the works in *text'painting*, a solo exhibition by Alice Teichert, you'll discover a direct relationship between the visual language of colour, gesture and form with typography and musical notation.

These two and three-dimensional paintings and the 16-part print work all in some way explore how image and text are inextricably linked. In fact, don't be surprised if you find yourself 'reading' the artwork! The double page structure, like that of an illuminated manuscript figures prominently in Teichert's artmaking and speaks to the open book form where image and text co-exist to share information. Teichert composes her own visual poetry inspired by music, language and colour that seeks to provide a point of entry to transport and transform the viewer.



MOMENT BY MOMENT, 2016 acrylic and crayon on canvas, 55" x 82"

Teichert uses the analogy of being transported when talking about reading and experiencing what we see. In the large-scale painting, *Moment by Moment* and in the book installation work, *Active Portal*, the artist aims to provide a point of entry for the viewer to access another space. Your body may remain in place, but the painting allows your mind to transport you somewhere else. In the left panel of *Active Portal*, we can see how she builds up layers of rich, pigmented glazes that play with light and translucency. This helps to create depth and space where the possibility of an opening or portal to explore and interpret is revealed. Similarly, the dense silver and circular gestures on the left side of *Moment by Moment* invite your gaze to slow down and move through the layers. The right side of both works are also built up, but glyph-like inscriptions sit on the surface, evoking a 'page' or text to read and decipher.



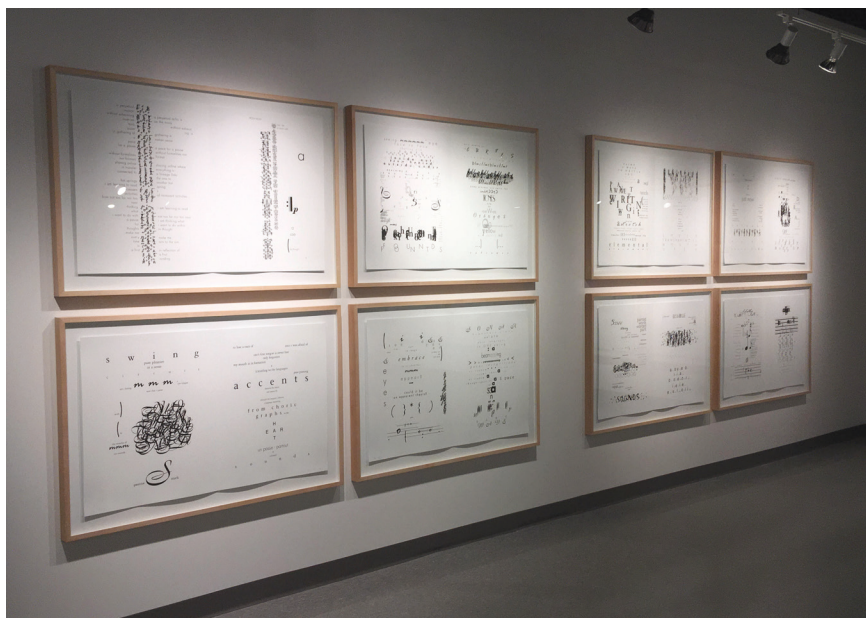
ACTIVE PORTAL, 2015 acrylic on canvas, painted wood stand 30" x 40" x 42"

These markings or scribbles call to mind the meditative quality in chants or sacred texts that allows for other ways of understanding.

Growing up in a multi-lingual environment that included music and art, Teichert developed an awareness of the many ways to communicate at an early age. She explains the notion of transference in relation to playing music:

*"As a child, when I was learning to play the piano and reading notes, the action that actually happens is I'm sitting in front of the piano, my eyes are looking at dots on five lines and the interpretation travels through my body, by thought-form into body-action and I'm commanding through my nervous system and everything else involved, the output of what I'm taking in, transferring. It's a very physical experience."*

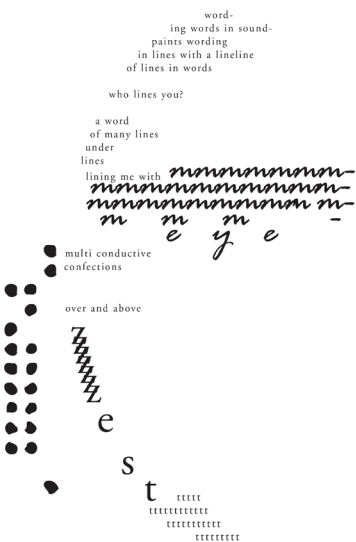
For Teichert, whether a gesture is rendered in a painting or graphically through text and shape on paper, she understands the way a line can find intonation, as it does in musical notation. Her text/painting work *s'pos)in(* moves away from the linear



S'POS)IN(, 2009 digital print, archival ink and paper 40" x 80"

way of thinking and reading and plays on the sculptural aspect of typography to create a composition of images that can be read and performed. The work is presented in four sections or tableau, each part consisting of the double page. The drawings first developed as part of a manuscript, but an excerpt from the writing evolved into a performance piece that became this iteration of a text painting. The work has been performed 7 times since 2008 and while the structure remains the same, the interpretation, both vocally and instrumentally when accompanied by musicians is always new. The piece moves through reading words, to making sounds and providing a way to connect to the more primal sounds that we may not think about or access in everyday life, but that are very much a part of us. Teichert's work in various media pushes past the surface and aims to activate what's below and above.

Elisa Coish | Curator



Detail, S'POS)IN(





*Alice Teichert is a multi-disciplinary artist with a practice that includes painting, two and three dimensional text work, printmaking and performance. She studied in Belgium and completed her diploma in Fine Arts at the Beaux-Arts in Valence, South of France. Teichert has built an international career with over 30 solo exhibitions in France, Canada, Switzerland and Australia. Her work is in public, corporate and private collections worldwide and she is represented in Canada by Oeno Gallery in Prince Edward County and Peter Robertson Gallery in Edmonton.*



The Latcham Gallery

The Latcham Gallery is the public art gallery in Stouffville, Ontario. It is dedicated to providing opportunities for members of the community to view art and the ideas that artists express through contemporary practices. It is funded by donations, sponsorships, membership and fundraising events as well as annual grants from the municipality of Whitchurch-Stouffville and the Ontario Arts Council.

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