SELINA TRIEFF examines the subtleties of how outward appearances—a tilt of the head, a gesture, a costume, a critical gaze—convey the drama within and between the people and other living beings she portrays.

In the abstract landscapes of KEN KRAUS, paint itself, applied both thickly and in thin layers, implies depth—even as it’s in eye-popping color.

The mysterious depth within an intensely immediate surface fascinates JUAN BERNAL in his paintings of luminous raindrops on dense, tropical foliage.

Depicting the tops of buildings as seen from the street in sharply angled perspective, DEREK REIST draws our eye from their sunlit surfaces into the depths of the distant sky.

In her plane paintings, DOROTHY KOPPELMAN shows that within the shattered wreckage of an airplane are the eternal forms of reality.

JAMES JUTHSTROM’s richly painted surfaces, composed of tiny multi-colored circles, suggest simultaneously unchartered depths.

ANTONIO MASÌ’s large watercolor bridgescapes painted in translucent layers present the drama of massive girders seen up close and the deep space beyond.

OPENING THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th, 6–8 PM through NOVEMBER 2009

TERRAIN GALLERY 141 GREENE STREET SOHO NYC 10012

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This exhibition shows works by seven contemporary artists, all of whom explore, in different, imaginative ways, opposites central to the painter’s art: Surface and Depth. And the artists comment on their work in relation to this landmark question from Is Beauty the Making One of Opposites? by Eli Siegel, founder of Aesthetic Realism:

Is painting, like art itself, a presentation of the “on top,” obvious, immediate?—and is it also a presentation of what is implied, deep, “below”?—and is art, consequently, an interplay of surface and sensation as “this” and depth and thought as “all that”?

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