LIBERAL ARTS ROXBURY

CY WAGNER
BLACK LINES AND QUADRANTS

Opening reception Saturday, April 27, 2019, 6-8pm

PRESS RELEASE

LIBERAL ARTS ROXBURY is pleased to present the first solo exhibition of former Roxbury resident Cy Wagner (1926-2016). *Cy Wagner: Black Lines & Quadrants* opens Saturday April 27, 2019, with a reception at the gallery from 5-7pm. The event is free and open to the public.

Cy Wagner worked as a career architect and urban planner in San Antonio, Texas, and Washington, DC, and taught architecture and design at the University of Texas, Austin, and Cornell University. Yet in tandem with his career, he was a passionate draughtsman and painter, exploring various artistic subjects and styles, ranging from still life to Pop art and geometric abstraction.

Black Lines and Quadrants represent only two of the artist's many series. Both date from around the time of Cy's retirement in 1993 from the National Capital Planning Commission in DC. In these two series, the artist is seen to be exploring color and spatial relations in a frenzied, often humorous way. Executed with exacting precision, the works display a jostling range of forms and colors, suggesting both real volumes and spaces and an imaginary theater of gesticulating forms. By structuring the works within black lines and in quadrants, Wagner conveys a sense of delightful chaos within rational order—a dynamic he surely wrestled with daily in his work as an architect. The works' titles reveal a playful interest in the turbulent modern world, often verging on the political: *Circuitry*; *Weather Report*; *The Widow Liberty*; *Ensalada de Mer*—all suggest a keen observer's take on the beauty and absurdity of late twentieth-century life.

Black Lines & Quadrants is the first gallery exhibition of Wagner's work and involves large canvasses as well as works on paper. All works are for sale. LIBERAL ARTS ROXBURY is open Saturdays from 11am to 5pm, and by appointment. Contact Kevin Moore at info@liberalartsroxbury.com for more information.

The Widow Liberty, 1994
Acrylic on canvas
72 x 60 inches
CW01

Circuitry, 1989
Acrylic on canvas
40 x 60 inches
Framed
CW02

Santa Fe, 1989
Acrylic on canvas
48 x 48 inches
CW03

Ensalada de Mer, 1989
Acrylic on canvas
48 x 48 inches
CW04

Weather Report, 1990
Acrylic on canvas
48 x 48 inches
CW05

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Untitled 4-Quad, c. 1989
Acrylic on canvas
48 x 48 inches
CW06

Untitled 4-Quad, c. 1989
Acrylic on canvas
48 x 48 inches
CW07

Untitled, c. 1988
Acrylic on canvas
56 x 38 inches
CW08

Untitled, 4-Quad #2, 1988
Acrylic on canvas
32 x 32 inches
CW09

Block Regatta, 1989
Acrylic on canvas
32 x 32 inches
CW22

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WORKS ON PAPER

Two-Day Drawing, 1990
Acrylic on paper
16 x 27 inches
CW10

Toy Train Yard, 1991
Acrylic on paper
17 x 27 inches
CW11

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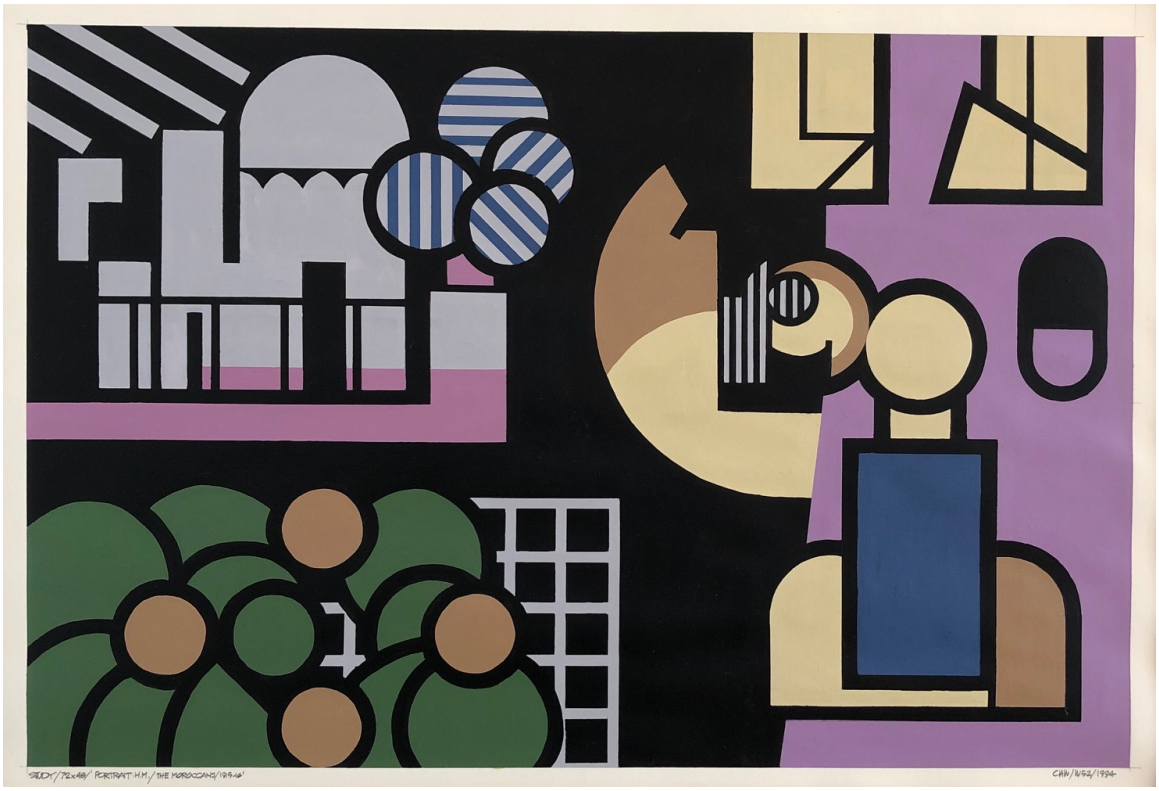
Toy Haring, 1991
Acrylic on paper
20 x 29 inches
CW12

Study for "Three Reds," 1993
Acrylic on paper
25 ½ x 15 ¼ inches
CW13

Sailing, 1991
Acrylic on paper
17 x 27 inches
CW14



Study, Portrait H. M., The Moroccans, 1915-16, 1994
Acrylic on paper
18 x 27 inches
CW15

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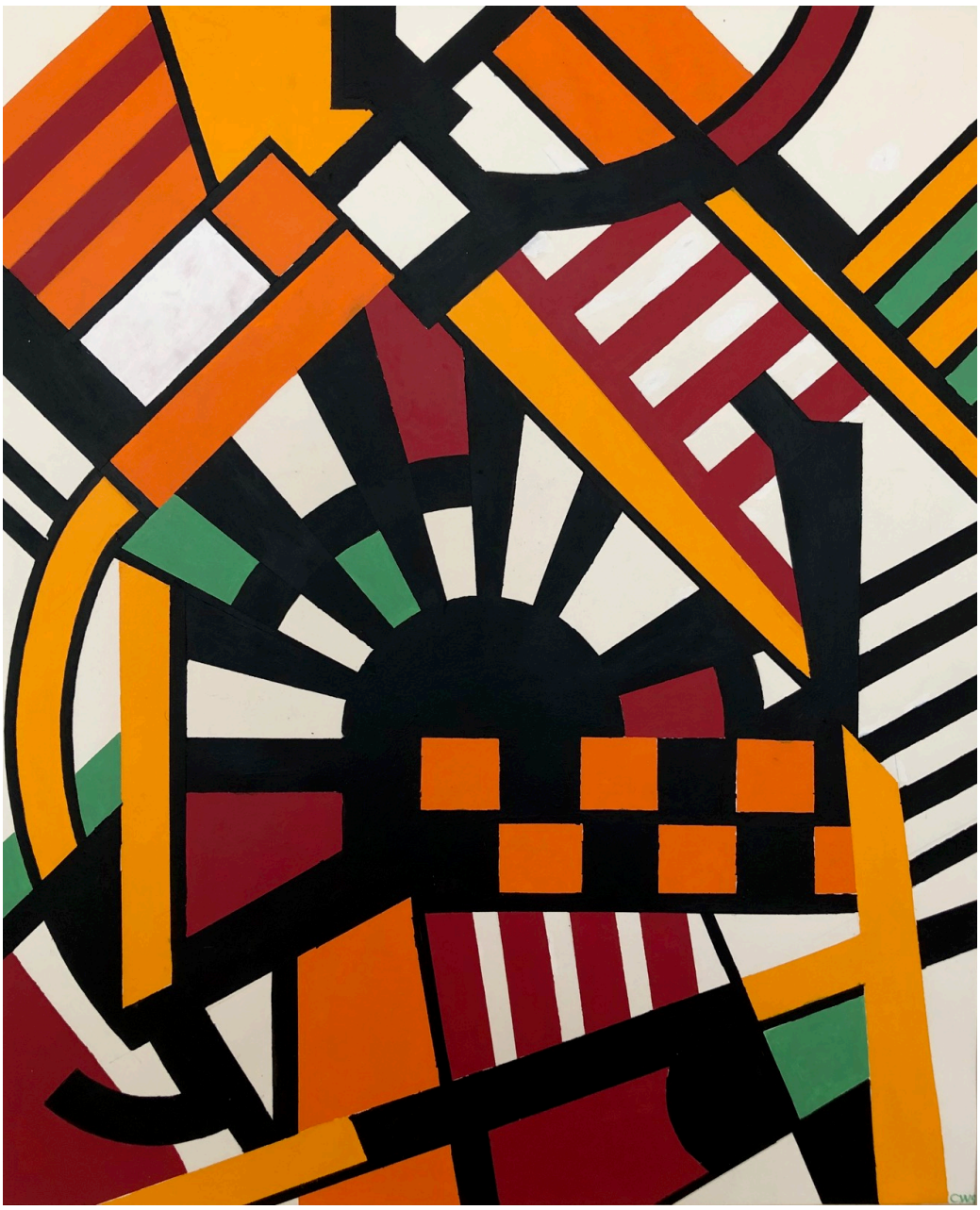

Power, 1991
Acrylic on paper
24 x 20 inches
CW16

Variation on Rauschenberg's First Jump Landing, 1961, 1993
Acrylic on paper
27 ½ x 19 ½ inches
CW17

Study, Portrait, H. M., Lute, 1943, 1994
Acrylic on paper
25 x 20 inches
CW18

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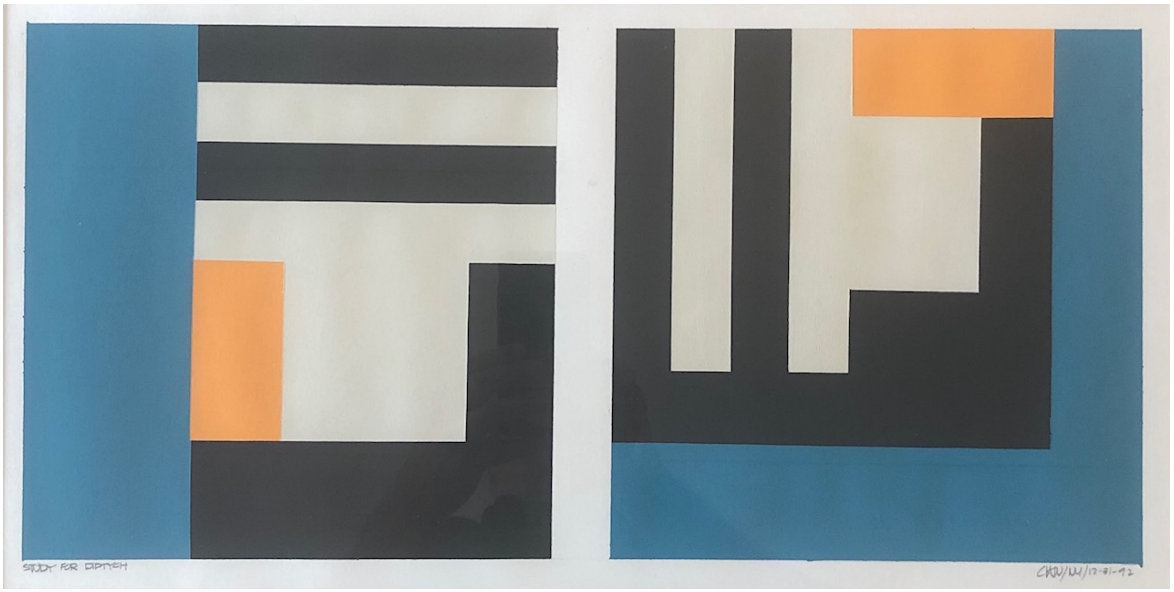
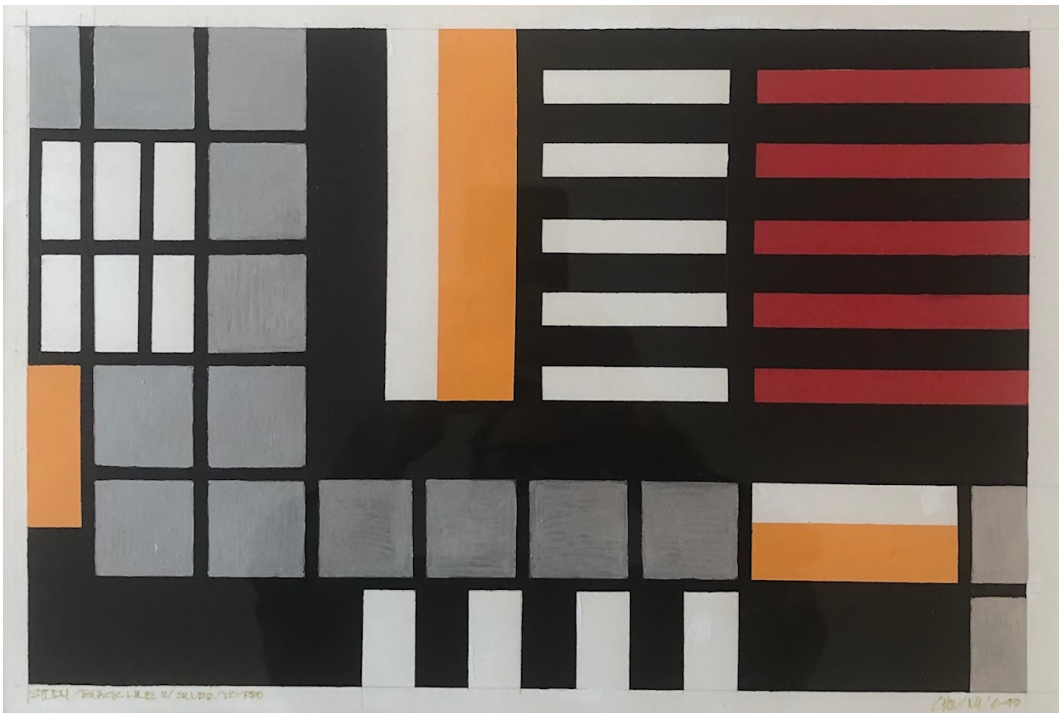


Study for Diptych, 1992
Acrylic on paper
9 x 19 inches
Framed
CW19



Study, Black Hole with Silver, Yellow, Red, 1993
Acrylic on paper
10 x 15 inches
Framed
CW20

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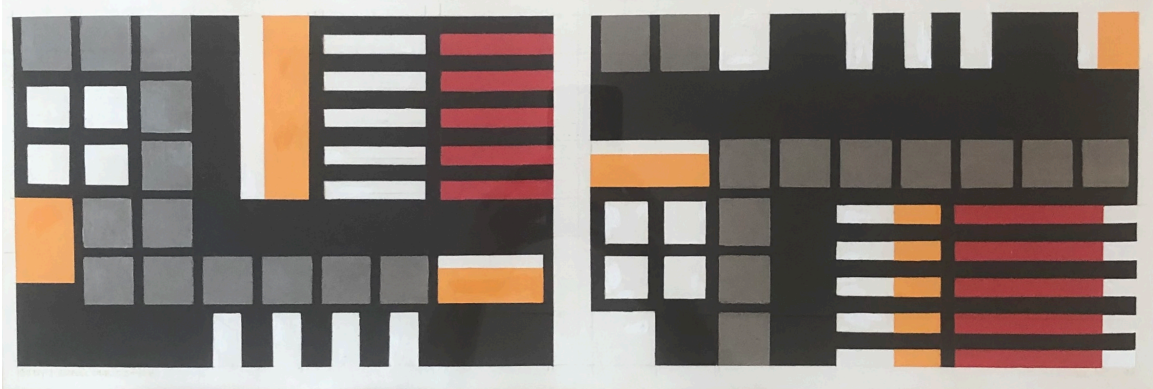

Study, Black Hole Diptych, 1993
Acrylic on paper
7 ½ x 23 ½ inches
Framed
CW21