



GIBSON FINE ART

## Christine Breakell-Lee

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### About the Artist:

Born in Ontario and raised in Vancouver, Christine Breakell-Lee is a Canadian abstract artist who explores her intuitive relationship with colour and space as a means of evidencing private emotions and memories. Breakell-Lee studied Visual Arts and Art History at Simon Fraser University where she pursued installation art projects, sculpture and painting. Following graduation she worked as a commercial illustrator and within the interior design community before beginning her current art practice.

In the expressive manner of Lyrical Abstraction, Breakell-Lee creates works that serve as visual explorations of her moods and curiosities over the course of a single day as if a colourful diary of private dramas. Breakell-Lee mostly avoids using brushes preferring to apply her material—acrylic paint, spray paint, oil paint, pastels and charcoal—with her hands and fingers creating a direct immediacy with each piece. Her approach is intuitive and unquestioning, allowing time for reflection but not doubt. Breakell-Lee is intrigued by the dichotomous struggle in her work as a mirror to the various sides of her identity—calm and vibrant, introspective and impulsive, grounded and ethereal. In the sensuous interplay between vast expanses and tattered patches of colour—as colours tangle with, cover over and move beyond other colours—Breakell-Lee is telling her own story of struggle and liberty. By leaving parts of the wood surface exposed so the raw element of the grain shows through, a further note of authenticity and material truth is recognized. Breakell-Lee's work is open, vital and compelling.

Christine Breakell-Lee lives in Vancouver and maintains a full time studio practice in the historic 1000 Parker Building in the city's eastside arts district.