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Lynn Stern:Transit of Light Opens Saturday, February 19th at Erin Cluley Gallery

A catalogue will be produced on the occasion of the exhibition with an essay by American art critic and poet, Donald Kuspit

[Dallas, Texas – January 15, 2022] **ERIN CLULEY GALLERY** is pleased to announce *Transit of Light* – a solo exhibition by New York based photographer Lynn Stern. The exhibition will be on view February 19th through March 26th, 2022 at the gallery's main location, 150 Manufacturing Street, Suite 210. The gallery is open weekly Wednesday through Saturday, 12 – 5 PM and by appointment. An opening reception will be held Saturday February 19th, 5 – 8 PM with the artist in attendance.

New York City native Lynn Stern works with black and white film and indirect, natural light. Since 1985 she has been doing studio work, using a scrim of translucent white or black fabric, either alone to create pure abstractions, or combined with symbolic objects. Stern thinks of the backlit scrim as her 'medium'; creating a glow of diffused light that is a constant in all of her work.

In her solo exhibition, *Transit of Light*, Stern will present works from three series – *Passage*, *Quickening*, and *Force Field* – the last two of which are ongoing. Stern is manipulating the scrim, the objects, and the light – using gestural folds and working with the light to create a dramatic quality of luminosity in the photographs. Believing that photography is a medium of light, not representation, her aim is to express, through the light and sense of movement, something that is unseen, but felt.

Stern writes about her practice, "What initially attracted me to photography is the way a certain quality of indirect, natural light can be rendered in the black and white gelatin silver process. Unlike sunlight, which falls *on* things and emphasizes surface, this light is an ambient glow that seems to emanate from within and to be part of space itself."

American art critic and poet, Donald Kuspit, has written an essay titled *Wonder At Work: Lynn Stern's Abstract Photographs* to be included in the catalogue being published on the occasion of the exhibition. Kuspit writes, "Stern's use of the camera [is] unprecedented. In her hands the camera becomes a visionary means rather than simply a means of recording everyday appearances. Everyday perception of the apparent object is suspended.... It is dematerialized, or as Kandinsky would say 'spiritualized.'"

Lynn Stern's exhibition will run concurrently with Will Murchison: Find the Beginning.

About the Artist

Lynn Stern was born and raised in New York, where she continues to live. She grew up surrounded by abstract expressionist art that her father started collecting in the late 1940s, continuing through the fifties. Stern was not conscious of the work's effect on her at the time, but in later years she realized that living with this art had affected her in two very different ways: it was probably responsible her love of abstraction, and it also intimidated her to the extent that she never even considered becoming a painter.

Shortly after graduating cum laude from Smith College, Stern began working as an archivist for the architect Robert A.M. Stern; this entailed accompanying his in-house photographer as a 'stylist,' removing and adding elements for the interior shots. Beguiled by composing through the camera lens, she began photographing in 1977, studying first at the International Center of Photography and then privately with Joseph Saltzer.

About Erin Cluley Gallery

Erin Cluley Gallery is a contemporary art gallery representing emerging, mid-career, and established artists from Dallas and the United States. The gallery presents a provocative program of artists working in both traditional and alternative forms including painting, sculpture, new media, photography, sculptural installation and public intervention.

In 2014, Erin Cluley Gallery ignited a creative movement in West Dallas acting as a hub for visual arts and community engagement. After nearly five years on Fabrication Street, the gallery has moved its operation to Riverbend – a development in Dallas' Design District celebrating the intersection between culture and commerce.

In April 2021, Cluley opened Cluley Projects – a satellite location in West Dallas acting as an incubator space focusing on regional artists and providing a platform for discovery and mentorship.

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