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C H E L S E A

For Immediate Release:

eleonora tammes *works on paper*

October 2 – October 27, 2012

Opening Reception:
Thursday Oct. 4, 6-8pm

547 West 27th St., #301 NY
Hours: Tues.-Sat. 12-6pm



Image: no beginning no end, 2012, acrylic paintmarker, graphite, 22x30 inches

Rhythm is an element so basic to music that to assert that its presence in some works of fine art is as significant as shape and color may seem curious. However, identifying rhythm as a generative power of her output helps clarify by just what means Dutch artist, Eleonora Tammes, creates the lingering emotional resonance the viewer takes away from twenty-three visually impactful works exhibited at New York's SOHO20 Chelsea Gallery, October 2-27, 2012. These pictures, done mostly with acrylic, paintmarker and graphite on paper, fascinate with complexities of line and form whose irregular repetitions do for the eye what measure does for the ear: They play with our perception of the passage of time.

Tammes' work invites the contemplation of eternity by suggesting geological phenomena that depend upon linear time for their existence. Her meticulously layered art of covering and revealing analogizes landscapes that change at the mercy of forces some of which, were they notated as music, would require one beat only every million years or so. Yet the dynamism of her systematic method is so palpable that if a Tammes painting altered in some small way while being studied, the observer might not be surprised. What is seen plain is an accumulative richness. Penetrating Tammes' strata demands a quality of concentration that slows the viewer down by bending his sense of time. Not only is the attention engaged superficially from left to right and top to bottom, at a spelunker's speed it plumbs strata whose applications become more opaque as the root layer is sought. As these three-dimensional-seeming works are waded into, they unpack their wealth of information at unpredictable intervals to the perception. This is another example of rhythm—in this case, aleatory—in Tammes' output.

Tammes' art twitches, shifts, courses and reverberates. Its rhythms hearken to the music of the spheres as these vibrations make and undo worlds. Her work is a brave acceptance of the overwhelming scale of Creation relative to the fractional human experience of it. The good tidings of this exhibition is that the fractional has an eternal home in the Whole.

—James Kuslan, July 13, 2012

For more information please call the gallery at 212.367.8994 or email at info@soho20gallery.com