



davis **arts** center

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Elements of form explored in Andy Cunningham's colorful paintings**

*Davis, CA – May 27, 2015:* Davis Arts Center is pleased to present “Form Affects,” an exhibit of paintings by Andy Cunningham that will be on display in the Tsao Gallery from June 5 through June 30, 2015. Gallery hours are Monday-Thursday, 9:30 am – 7:00 pm; Friday, 9:30 am – 5:00 pm, and Saturday, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.

A reception, which is free and open to the public, will be held on Friday, June 12 from 6 to 8 pm during the Davis Downtown 2nd Friday Art About.

Andy Cunningham's work celebrates the tools of painting: color, form, line, space. As he notes in his artist's statement: “My work is about these things as content in the context of making art.” But even his most abstract compositions contain a chimera of figure or gesture, giving the work an intimate, personal quality. Vibrant and sometimes whimsical, yet intensely purposeful, Cunningham's paintings reflect a regimen of highly disciplined play.

In a 2013 interview for Sacramento Art History Consortium, Cunningham referred to his creative process as “a mix of experimentation and scientific study.” Both impulses are at work in the art on display; we can almost hear the artist asking “what happens if?”

“Untitled\_Red” is deceptively simple, its concentric oval bands in shades of silver and gray superimposed over a shimmering red ground. Other paintings in this series explore similar - but not identical - forms in blue, orange, green, white. Although variations from piece to piece may seem minor, they have an impact. As the artist experiments with the perceptual experience of how the eye reads these subtle shifts in color, shape and visual field, the effect on the viewer is both challenging and compelling.

Born in New York, Andy Cunningham currently lives in Sacramento, where he teaches drawing at Sacramento Country Day School. Cunningham studied studio art at California College of Arts and Crafts and UC Davis and holds a Master of Arts degree in Combined Media from Hunter College in New York City. Cunningham's work has been exhibited widely in the Sacramento region, including Brickhouse Gallery and the Crocker-Kinglsey Art Competition at the Crocker Art Museum; on the East Coast; and in Germany, the Netherlands, and France. View his work at <http://syndeticart.tumblr.com/>

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