



JUDITH BRAUN

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STATEMENT

Black & Raw is a series of paintings that reflect my frame of mind during the social, political and pandemic nightmare of the last few years. The enlarged heads assert my presence and tinged with humor are an act of resilience. The black paint on raw unstretched canvas relates to my drawing practice of charcoal on paper or bare walls; the loose muslin is strong but vulnerable. The paintings also remain within my chosen constraints of symmetry, abstraction, and black and white palette, which I've adhered to since 2003. Working with these parameters is both a trigger and a filter for my imagination. I use patterns and systems of mark-making to set the images in motion, from intentional to unpredictable. My process embodies a philosophy of freedom through discipline.

BIO

Judith Braun was born in 1947, in Albany, NY, and received her MA and MFA from the University at Albany in 1983. She began showing in NYC in 1988, in Group Material's, *Democracy* show at Dia, followed by White Columns, Art in General, The Drawing Center, and the 1994 *Bad Girls* show at the New Museum. After locating in NYC she had solo shows at Souyun Yi, Arena, Fruit & Flower Deli, Joe Sheftel, McKenzie Fine Art, and Simuvac Projects. Braun has also participated in many group shows nationally and internationally, including Berlin, Rio de Janeiro, Murcia, SP, London, Vienna, Beijing, and UAE. Museum shows include Indianapolis Museum of Art, Chrysler Museum of Art, and Grand Rapids Art Museum. Braun has received artist grants from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation and the Adolf and Esther Gottlieb Foundation, among others. Reviews of her work have been in the New York Times, Hyperallergic, Flash Art, Frieze, and most recently The Brooklyn Rail reviewed her solo show at Opalka Gallery, in Albany, NY. Braun's papers are archived in the *Special Collection of Downtown New York Artists of the 1980s-90s*, at the Fales Library, NYU. In 2018 Braun returned to live and work in Albany, NY.

