

Serious Flirt

The painter Susan Wanklyn hits a heartening stride with her recent abstractions at A.M. Richard Fine Art. Making significant gains in space (airy), approach (casual) and surface (lustrous, translucent and layered), she's more in tune with playful complexity. Employing stenciled geometric forms, Ms. Wanklyn obscures and accentuates bopping arrays of clumpy rectangles. Having burrowed under Modernist abstraction, she comes out refreshed and light on her feet. That Ms. Wanklyn remains serious, steadfast and true while flirting with silliness, cute and kitsch points to an artist who pursues contradiction and, more importantly, catches up with it. Susan Wanklyn: *Paintings in a Room* is at A.M. Richard Fine Art, 328 Berry Street, Brooklyn, until Nov. 11. —Mario Naves