

PRESS RELEASE

Zillman Art Museum - University of Maine

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High resolution digital images available upon request



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Admission to ZAM is FREE in
2022 thanks to Birchbrook

Zillman Art Museum (ZAM) announces Winter Exhibition

BANGOR – The Zillman Art Museum, located at 40 Harlow Street in downtown Bangor, opened a new exhibition on January 14 that will run through April 30, 2022. ZAM is open Tuesday-Saturday from 10 am - 5 pm and brings modern and contemporary art to the region, presenting approximately 21 original exhibitions each year. Admission to the Zillman Art Museum is free in 2022 thanks to the generosity of Birchbrook.

DEBORAH DANCY: CIRCLING TIME

January 14 - April 30, 2022

Circling Time features nearly 30 paintings by Connecticut-based artist Deborah Dancy. Her gestural compositions, often monochromatic and balanced with bright pops of vivid color, are rooted in abstract expressionism. Some of Dancy's works span six feet and embrace the large-scale format often favored by the early abstract painters. The artist uses a form of inventive biomorphic abstraction to evoke emotion and express an unbridled freedom. Opting not to begin a work with preconceived ideas, the artist instead chooses to highlight the beauty of the unpredictable and the process of revision. Dancy embraces the idea of a "beautiful mess" expressing that "incompleteness—the unfinished fragment of what 'almost was' and 'might become'—amplifies meaning."

Dancy uses both additive and reductive processes in constructing her paintings. She adds painted passages that might later be scraped away as she searches to achieve a balance in the composition. The artist's spontaneous process contributes to the sense of free flowing emotion found in many of her paintings. Dancy encourages various interpretation and formulation of meaning through the eyes of the viewer. The artist states "Experiencing a painting of mine can be like going to a country that is completely different. I want someone to embrace the different, the difficult, the frightening—even the ugly—in a culture that is vastly different from their own." By not fully revealing her intention in the paintings, the observer is inspired to experience a unique, unrestricted, and deeply personal encounter with a painting.

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DEBORAH DANCY (American born 1949)

left: *Aliens*, 2018

Oil on canvas

right: *Lucky Eight*, 2018

Oil on canvas

Both works: Courtesy of the artist