



ROSS BLECKNER (b. 1949)**West to East**

Signed verso, "Ross Bleckner 2007 East to West"

oil on linen canvas

72 x 72 in. (73 5/8 x 73 3/4 x 3 3/4 in.)

2007

13502

PROVENANCE:

Imago Galleries, Palm Desert, California

Private Collection, California

Ross Bleckner is a celebrated American painter whose works reference loss, memory, and change such as explorations of the cell during the AIDS epidemic or in response to his father's cancer diagnosis. The 1965 MoMA exhibition that brought Op Art to the fore, *The Responsive Eye* and included artists Richard Anuszkiewicz, Tadasky, and Francis Celentano, had a profound influence on him as an artist. This painting, like his other immersive, large-scale works, elicit a powerful, hypnotic, dizzying effect. Aesthetically pleasing, Bleckner's canvases explore perception – visual, emotional, physical, time. Bleckner is part of the same generation of and friends with Julian Schnabel, David Salle, Eric Fischl, and Peter Halley, all of whom returned painterly technique to the canvas.

Ross Bleckner is an American artist who graduated in 1971 from New York University and earned an M.F.A. from the California Institute of the Arts in 1973. For the last 20 years, his art has been largely an investigation of change, loss, and memory, often addressing the subject of AIDS. Mr. Bleckner uses symbolic imagery rather than direct representation, and his work is visually elusive, with forms that constantly change focus. While much of Bleckner's work can be divided into distinct groups or series with motifs repeated from painting to painting, he is also in the habit of redeploying and combining old motifs. Works by the artist are held in collections around the world including Museum of Modern Art, NY, Museum of Contemporary Art, LA, Astrup Fearnley Museet for Moderne Kunst, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, and the Whitney Museum of American Art, NY.

In 1995, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum had a major retrospective of his works from the last two decades of exhibitions at acclaimed institutions such as San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Stockholm Moderna Museet, and the Carnegie Museum of Art. Through his philanthropic efforts, Ross Bleckner has enabled many community organizations to perform their vital work. He is on the board of AIDS Community Research Initiative of America (ACRIA), a non-profit community-based AIDS research and treatment education center. Bleckner is currently a Clinical Professor of Studio Art at New York University's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development. In May 2009 he was awarded the title of Goodwill Ambassador by the United Nations. He was the first fine artist to receive the position.

















SYNHAARTS
Box 82A
Davenport NY 13758
Tel 607-278-5065

Ross
Black run 2007
west to east