

Mary Simpson
The Wild Word
November 4 - December 17, 2016

The Wild Word

Unlike the philosopher, the poet can come right out and say it: beauty wants only to be seen.

No interpretation, no second life, circulation. That snake too shy for grasses—it won't ask for that either. Beauty won't be reduced to aesthetic consequence. Image and language are equal vehicles for thought. Consider *if*, consider *blue*, consider *X*.

Who sees? It's a great question. An empty palm, while anxiously gnawing at the visible—holds open uncertainty (not the same as doubt!) and offers: here it is, yes. It's like this now.

—Mary Simpson

David Petersen Gallery presents an exhibition of new work by Mary Simpson. With *The Wild Word*, Simpson exhibits a suite of paintings continuing her inquiry into beauty, logic and form. Writing is a critical part of Simpson's working process and in painting, she composes repetitions of shapes, colors and marks as if working out a visual language. Simpson layers her paintings over a long period of time with oil, impasto and graphite. Composing images inside the limitation of framed panels provide architectural emphasis. This is her second solo show with the gallery.