

The 5 Booths We're Still Thinking About from Independent 20th Century

Independent 20th Century filled the newly reopened Breuer Building with bold abstractions, overlooked histories, and fitting homecomings—from Mary Grigoriadis and Elaine de Kooning to Alice Trumbull Mason.

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Mary Grigoriadis at Ortuzar



Mary Grigoriadis, "Tutankhamen's Repose," 1976, oil on raw linen, 66 x 66 inches. © Mary Grigoriadis. Courtesy of the artist and Ortuzar, New York. Photo by Thomas Barratt.



Mary Grigoriadis, "Ravenna Eve," c. 1979-1980, oil on raw linen, 66 x 66 inches. © Mary Grigoriadis. Courtesy of the artist and Ortuzar, New York. Photo by Thomas Barratt.

Ortuzar is presenting a wonderful mix of works by **Mary Grigoriadis**, and marks the artist's first presentation with the gallery. The booth focuses specifically on Grigoriadis' work in the 1970s, when she first came onto the scene as an artist. Both due to the size of her studio and an interest in maintaining a close physical relationship to the surfaces

upon which she works, Grigoriadis only works on canvases that are 12-feet-by-12-feet or 66-by-66 inches. The works on view present both of these sizes, and it's great to see the different approaches employed across these different sizes. Grigoriadis' restraint and ability to maneuver the materials she uses with such confidence and clarity is remarkable to experience up close. The bold colors and wide range of shapes that comprise each composition juxtapose powerfully with the Brutalist context, and provide a nice warmth to the otherwise austere surroundings. As one of the founding members of the all-female, artist-run cooperative gallery A.I.R., and a leading figure in the Pattern and Decoration movement, Grigoriadis influence is expansive, and this presentation highlights an important moment in her journey as an artist still practicing today.